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courts but women are still not allowed to participate.

Similar situations exist in Lynchburg (population 60,000) with three courts: Northern Virginia's Pentagon with four (exclusively military); Arlington (where handball continues to dominate); and Richmond, Norfolk, and Newport News—all with large populations but few court facilities.

Virginia Tech is building 16 new courts—but the ceilings are two-feet (22-foot) too high! Hopefully we can have a tournament of some sort there.

We are looking forward to attending the May meeting. Perhaps an exchange of ideas will help us solve some of our local problems (which are happily due to growth). We would like to see the IRA board approve an increase in dues with a "rebate" going back to the states.

George O. Long
Dahlgren, Va.

Please list the Second Annual Missouri State Racquetball tournament in the calendar. The dates are July 11-12-13. The tournament will be played at the Spaulding Racquetball Club.

The following divisions will be included: men's open, B and C, seniors, masters, golden masters, women's open, B and C. Entry applications and additional information may be had by writing to the Manchester Club, 200 Enchanted Parkway, Manchester, Missouri 63011; or to the Hazelwood Club, 8701 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, Missouri 63042. (Phone AC 314-391-6363.)

David W. Spaulding
St. Louis

More letters on page 27

Written by a professor of Psychology and professional salesman.

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Dear Members:

I would like to take this opportunity to give some time and thought to the three gentlemen we are losing from the Board of Directors. It is always difficult to lose outstanding people, and this year we are losing three of the best the board has had. I am sure the new people elected will be able to carry on what these three have started but they will be missed.

First of all, Dr. Bud Muehleisen is going off the board. He has been our rules chairman for the last five years and has been an outstanding member of the board. Bud has always been open-minded and has been a great help because of his wide range of activities and involvement in racquetball.

The next gentleman going off is Ken Porco. Ken has been our National Commissioner for five years. He has done a wonderful job in this capacity, as well as being our Pro Commissioner this year. He has been active as both a player and a board member. His ideas and philosophy have helped shape the association.

The third member we are losing is Dr. Bill Sellars. Bill is a person who thinks all of our problems through and makes his recommendations known to the other board members. He is thorough and whatever he says to the board has meaning.

I know we will miss these three men, as they have been a great asset to racquetball, but I am sure they will continue working for the betterment of the International Racquetball Association.

I think the membership owes a great deal to these three. For myself, I would like to say thanks for a job well done, and I believe this mirrors the feelings of all members of the international association.

Sincerely yours,

Myron Roderick
Executive Director
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### NEXT MONTH

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Steve Strandemo
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Victor Niederhoffer was quoted in the New York Times as saying, "I have proved that I am the greatest squash player in history. I have won the Nationals six times, including the last five. But my sphere is limited. To prove what a great champion and athlete I am, I'm going to enter the National racquetball championships. Even though I've hardly played, I'm going to win it."

Niederhoffer, whose ego would make Charlie Brumfield's look like a pinhead (We're just talking about ego) was dead serious.

When Gar read this, he thought to himself—NO WAY!! Gar quickly got himself some backing, and wrote Niederhoffer a short 15 page resume of his accomplishments, and issued the challenge. Before the ink had even dried on the letter, Nieder accepted.

The Gar wrote, "Our match will be at seven, and I'll guarantee you a seat on the return flight at 7:45 p.m. Even though you have been a Victor all of your life, you will not be a victor April 14th."

Nieder in turn replied, "I think that it would be best, if you got Brumfield or Keeley to play with you. That way, I could play you both at the same time, and I'd be assured of a workout."

The World's Squash Champion is a great athlete with a tremendous passing game, combined with uncanny drop shots... I don't want to come all the way from New York City for nothing. But, to show you what a true champion I am, I will take you and your lovely wife out for a recuperation dinner, after the match.

Nieder, who owns his own brokerage firm in New York trains by alternately jogging and sprinting to and from work. He wears one white sneaker, and one blue sneaker to show his individuality. He naturally wears a business suit with a tie, and carries his racquets, "So I can ward off the muggers."

By the day of our match, Nieder had been playing for two months. He had been practicing for two months; three hours, six days a week.

A truly great athlete, who became World's Squash Champion, by great court coverage, and a tremendous passing game, combined with uncanny drop shots, Nieder figures he can do the same in racquetball.

On March third, he lost to Mike Luciw, former National Doubles Champion, by the scores of 21-15, 19-

21, 21-7, in the quarterfinals of the Eastern Regionals. A week later, he lost in Milwaukee to Bill Schmidtke, present IRA Champ, 21-14, 21-10. These are very commendable scores.

When the match began, it was quite evident that Nieder had improved by leaps and bounds. In the first game he jumped to a 12-4 lead by controlling the center, and hitting reverse corners off of both sides.

Gar adjusted, went to the ceiling more, got hot, and scored the next fifteen points to go ahead, 19-21. Gar finally won the game, 21-15.

Gar continued where he left off in game two. He was shooting well, and went ahead, 8-2. At this juncture Nieder started passing beautifully. Gar's concentration seemed to waiver, and Nieder went ahead, 12-10. Gar couldn't change the momentum, and let the game go at 17-10.

Going into game three, the tension was incredible. How would it look for racquetball, if this upstart neophyte, defeated one of the U.S.'s finest?

Gar jumped off to an 11-1 lead. As Gar himself said, "I never shot better, and I guess I got a little too cocky."

Nieder came back to 11-16. At this juncture, Gar stopped him just as he was about to serve. "You must wait for the score first." He glared at Gar and said, "Who taught you that trick—Brumfield?"

It went to 16-13, Gar came in, and hit his famous serve. Nieder hit it into the floor. That made it 17-13. Three Gar rollouts, and a Nieder error gave Garfinke the match.

Gar said, "I never played a more exhausting match; physically or mentally."

As for Niederhoffer, he was a perfect gentleman. They had to restrain him from burning down the YMCA.

Actually, it was a good, clean, match. Nieder's retrieving and passing game are unbelievable. He has to shoot better from deep court, and improve his ceiling game. When he does, he will be a threat to anyone.

The former 31-year-old, 6-2, 185 pound Harvard graduate, is determined to win the Nationals. He won't win it this year, but he gets better every day. If you have to meet him in a tournament, DON'T TAKE HIM LIGHTLY.

The Gar: "He was a perfect gentleman. They had to restrain him from burning down the YMCA."
In the Southeastern regional golden master's action Ike Gurner and Alex Guerry stormed through their first rounds (respectively) with a pair of byes. Accompanying this account of the action is a picture of Gurner warming up for the tournament. Conditioning like this accounts for success in opening rounds, and apparently helps in the final rounds, too.

After putting away Bruce Alger's bid in two solid performances, 21-6, 21-10, Gurner and Guerry (who had eliminated Kenneth Aungest, 21-5, 21-8) met for the finals, which went to Gurner, 21-12, 11-21, 21-14.

The high-scoring Golden master's doubles action saw some high-jumping by at least half the doubles team of Tom Stidham-Herb Frank when they defeated Gurner-Tom Simons in the finals, 17-21, 21-15, 21-17.

OPEN SINGLES
The IRA regional tournament, February 28-March 2, at Nashville, Tenn., attracted more than 175 entries with play going as late as midnight. More than 200 matches were played on the eight new Nashville YMCA courts.

Highlight of the tournament was the open singles in which David Bledsoe, Chattanooga, upset the number one seeded Johnny Hennen in the quarterfinals, 21-11, 18-21, 21-10. Bledsoe then polished off Randy Stafford in the finals, 21-15, 21-17, to take the open singles title.

Third in the singles went to Steve Smith by default after he had moved up to the semifinals with a victory over Winsberg, 21-7, 21-8.

The open singles attracted 62 players and was the largest event of the tournament. The open doubles was the next in size of field with thirty entries.

SENIOR SINGLES: Norm Chambers bested Tom Cannon in three games, dropping the first, and coming back for two straight, 8-21, 21-19, 21-18, in a close court battle. In the 21-entry event F. Burkholder took third by default after defeating B. Roy in the quarterfinals, 21-19, 21-8.

MASTER'S SINGLES: First place was taken by Tom Stidham with two wins over G. Ira, 21-5, 21-6. Fox took third.

JUNIOR SINGLES: David Fleetwood defeated Mike Fatolitis, 21-7, 10-21, 21-15, for the junior's title. Third went to Pete Tashie, 21-15, 21-10, over Gordon.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Sarah Green repeated her Memphis performance by defeating Kissy Nichopoulos, 21-5, 21-11, to take first place in the regional's singles event. Third was Evans (21-4, 21-18) over O'Connell.

OPEN DOUBLES: John Hennen and David Bledsoe teamed up to take the title by beating Steve Smith and Dean Nichopoulos, 21-4, 21-15. Third went by default to Michaels-Hyman.

SENIOR DOUBLES: McGee-Green defeated Norm Chambers-Smith, 21-18, 21-8. The team of Leon-Schippers was third. And in the master doubles, Tom Stidham and Herb Frank tookContinued on facing page.

Bledsoe upsets Hennen in S. E. regionals

Women's doubles players, from the left, Nichopoulos, Green, O'Connell and Evans.
MAY-JUNE 1975

Randy Stafford, left, placed second in the open singles. Center is Frank Burkholder, tournament co-chairman, and winner David Bledsoe.

the title over Gumer-Simons by 17-21, 21-17, 21-17. Fox-Nichopoulos was third.

JUNIOR DOUBLES: Pete Tashie and David Fleetwood, first and third in the singles teamed to take the doubles action, 21-13, 21-20, over Gilbert and Gordon. Third went to Smith-Aydt.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Sarah Green and Kissy Nichopoulos who finished first and second in the women's singles paired to turn back all contenders to take the women's doubles title for the Southeastern region, 21-11, 10-21, and 21-12, over O'Connell and Evans who had finished third and fourth in the singles. Hornack-Hamrick took third.

Tournament chairman Jerry Bryant, a member of the Nashville YMCA athletic club, had his hands full for the three day event. Ron Leon reported that Memphis anticipates 200 entries in their 1976 tournament which this year drew 90 contestants. Comparatively, with Nashville having attracted 175 for the regionals this year, the 1976 regionals will not simply last until midnight—they may just be getting started. Vernon Nelson, another member of the Nashville YMCA, was this year's hospitality chairman, and the question put to him is, "This was fine, but what d'you have planned for '76?"

See Scoreboard for additional results.
By Myron Roderick

The Southwest Regionals at Dr. Bud Muehleisen's and Gary McCabe's new facilities in Oklahoma City were a huge success. The club had opened just in time for the regionals, and everything was extremely smooth.

I believe all states in the region were represented in the tourney, and from each of them Jim McPherson and his wife, Sandy, managers of the Oklahoma City courts, should receive a vote of appreciation.

There were a lot of good matches in the regional open singles, but, of course, the two who fought it out for the championship—Pete Wright and Tom McKie were—are—two of Texas' best.

Their finals match was an outstanding play of racquetball, with McKie taking the first game, 21-14, and Wright coming back to even the count, 13-21. In the deciding game McKie got hot and erupted across the scoreboard with a decisive 21-5 finishing touch to take the victory; and with it head for St. Louis.

Bernstein defeated Warner for third place, and in the consolations of the open singles Benien defeated Glander, 21-16, 21-3. There had been 140 entries, which makes for a lot of tremendous racquetball.

Sixteen seniors came out swinging in the regional play, with the tally in the finals going for Creagh, 20-21, 21-16, 21-3, over Kasinski. Mooney put Matthews down in two, 21-12, 21-8, to take third place, and Riggle defeated Wilson, 21-5, 21-9, to take the consolations.

MASTERS SINGLES

Ed Grula was shooting the ball well and it was the best I have seen him play. Frank Burt will likely agree. The score in their finals match went 21-2 and 21-6. Third place was taken by Jack Domnick, 21-7, 21-2, over George Farrell.

We played a round robin in the juniors' singles and the winner was Kwartle with three matches. Sandlers, with two was second; Johnson had one win, and Lawton went winless in the tourney.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Pete Wright's new bride, Sharman Wright, defeated Gerou, 21-6, 21-9, and Sandy McPherson defeated Chirigos two identically scored games of 21-14 each. Shannon looked extremely good and I am sure she will be tough in the Internationals. In the consolation Hodges defeated Campbell, 21-3, 21-3.

Open doubles play attracted a lot of good teams, and was a lot of fun to play. In the finals Bill Thurman and Pete Wright defeated Roderick and Muehleisen. I couldn't get going, and it was just too much for Dr. Bud to overcome. (Besides, the new court was the host, so this was appropriate.)

Thurman and Wright, on the other hand, were playing very well, and took the match in three: 21-13, 17-21, 21-15.

Taking third place in the doubles was the team of McKie and Bernstein who defeated Linton and Hardy, 21-11, 21-9.

In the "B" doubles finals Ruthford and Sturdivant defeated two junior players, Sandlers and Kwartle, 21-14, 14-21, 21-12. Campbell and Taylor teamed for third with wins over Myers-McPherson, 21-16, 13-21, 21-7.

The consolation saw Aichle-Martin of Stillwater, defeat Wilson-Lemmon, 21-14, 21-10.

I think all divisions had outstanding play in the regional tournament and I am sure a lot of the winners and players are looking forward to being in St. Louis for the International Championship, May 23-26.
Ron Strom garners North singles title in two games

Mark Hegg is second, Joe Wirkus is third. Koni Porter tops Judy Thompson and Ev Dillon for women’s singles crown

Regional tournament attendance and participation were up over a year ago when 189 players turned out. This year the event attracted 225 for a healthy increase in numbers, and all with more talent, and at least a year’s more experience to lay on the line.

In the men’s singles Ron Strom played a good first game over Mark Hegg taking it 21-6. He seemed to cool off a bit (or else Hegg got warmer) in the second which went to 21-19 with Hegg leading much of the way.

Third in the singles was Joe Wirkus. John Rude finished first in the consolation, although there was some question as to what he was doing on the left side of the brackets. Rude lost his first round in one of the biggest upsets of the tournament losing in three close games.

In the senior singles Bernie Nielsen upset Bob McNamara in three games, 7-21, 21-11, 21-15. This was the first time Bernie had managed the feat. Third went to Bob Adam, and Bill Jukick took first in the consolation bracket.

In what was probably the best match of the tournament Diz Kronenberg downed a stubborn Joe Bechard in three, 20-21, 21-14, 21-9. In the first game Bechard led most of the way, then fell off his game enough to give Kronenberg a chance to take it away from him. But it was a brief chance, and Bechard went ahead to win. The final two games, though, were decided Kronenberg’s all the way.

Chuck Austin had no trouble in the lightly entered golden masters, defeating-second place Ben Wirkus, Fond du Lac, 21-11, 21-13.

A promising young player, Bob Adam, Jr., was just too much for the opposition in the juniors. He took first place, with second going to Chip Lien, Grand Forks, North Dakota.

In the women’s singles Koni Porter had her work cut out for her in the first two games of the match with tennis-experienced Judy Thompson. Thompson took the first game, 16-21, and pressed Porter in the second, which ended 21-17. The third game showed Koni’s better knowledge of racquetball, and the deciding game’s score was 21-6, Koni Porter.

Third place was a surprise for many fans. Ev Dillon, who wins most of the tournaments in this part of the country, was upset by Judy Thompson . . . which is another indication that Thompson will bear watching. This was either Thompson’s first, or very nearly first, tournament.

Ev Dillon and Nancy Cato teamed to take first place in the women’s doubles over Sue Dostal-Koni Porter. Ev was back in game form, and the score was 21-20, 21-18. Third place went to Barb Tennyson-Lynn Johnson. Thompson-Gonser took first in the consolations.

In the “B” doubles the brother-team of Krutchen-Krutchen defeated the father-son team of Rech-Rech, 15-21, 21-15, 21-9. The brothers started rather slowly then worked up a head of steam during the final two games. Bob Keenan and Mike Wieum took third.
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Pre-tournament favored Bob Lund takes Northwest in five matches

Ninety-two players representing Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana battled for the privilege of competing in the Internationals to be held at St. Louis this May. Play was dominated by Oregon with six of the eight events being taken by Portland racquetball champions.

In the tournament at Eastern Washington State College February 28, Bob Lund emerged the winner of the open singles division. The singles attracted the largest number of entries—37 of the 92 total.

Bob Lund went into the tourney as the favorite and lived up to expectations by going the three game limit in only two of his five matches. In the finals he defeated second place Tony Krause, a fellow Oregonian, 21-7 and 21-10.

Lund at 29 is a seasoned player with ample skill and stamina to keep moving ahead in racquetball ranks. In the past year he has dominated play in the northwest singles competition winning the Northwest open, the Wenatchee open, and in the 1974 Daffy Open placed third, being defeated by one of the nation's best—Steve Keeley.

In the women's singles Jennifer Harding, a sometimes dental hygienist and oft-times racquetballer, was unstoppable taking the finals from Gina Baird by the brilliant score of 21-1, 21-2. In only one of her three matches was she extended, and that was with Jeanette Crnich who gave up begrudgingly with scores of 21-10, 19-21, and 21-18.

Mrs. Harding is one of the outstanding racquetball players in the country. Shortly before the regionals she entered the Dallas Pro-Am Celebrity tournament where she placed fourth, and scored a major accomplishment by being one of the few people ever to take a game away from women's super-player, Peggy Steding. She also won fourth place in last year's Women's International Championships at San Diego.

In the mixed doubles Jennifer Harding and Bob Lund teamed up to add another trophy to their collections. By a score of 21-12 and 21-9 they defeated second place Spear-Canich.

Bob Peterson, number one racquetball player in Idaho, was one of the few holdouts to the Oregon domination of the regionals. Peterson, Boise, took the Senior singles in convincing fashion from the challenge of Charles Jackson by a score of 21-15 and 21-7 in the finals.

Before play began Peterson was the number two seed behind Ed Grause, Portland, but in one of the major upsets of the day Jackson downed the formidable Grause by 21-20, 16-21, 21-7. In the first game (21-20) with the score tied, Grause pulled a muscle in his lower leg to seriously hamper his court mobility, but appeared to have overcome the handicap when he took the second game.

Peterson's record is impressive. In addition to taking the Senior division and being Idaho's top player, he has ranked near the top for over a year in area competition.

In the Master's singles tournament chairman Pat Whitehill emerged on top by a score of 21-12 and 21-13 over Joe Luchman of Great Falls, Montana, after Luchman had knocked off top-seeded Don Erickson of Boise, Idaho. Luchman won Erickson from title competition with scores of 14-21, 21-16, 21-6, and had earlier defeated Bernie Goble, Spokane, 17-21, 21-18, 21-7.

In the Golden Masters division E. W. Lohr, Portland, displayed superb conditioning defeating Marcus Grant, Spokane, 21-14, 14-21, 21-8. The Golden masters attracted the smallest field of entries with only four players contesting for the title.

In the first round of play Lohr took G. Keyes, 21-15 and 21-7, and Marcus defeated G. Bryan, 21-4 and 21-0. In the Golden consolation Keyes defeated Bryan, 31-12.

Portland's fifteen year old sharp-shooter, Hank Marcus, defeated Jeff Larson, Vancouver, in what must have been the best single finals match of the tournament. The scores in the well-played game were 21-18, 17-21 and 21-12.

Coming into the finals Marcus had defeated David Chalfant, Walla Walla, by identical scores of 21-10 in two games after drawing a bye in the first round.

Larson had gone through two games before the finals, taking two promising young players out of the running. He downed Jeff Foss, Spokane, in two straight, and eliminated Larry Reynolds, Tacoma, 21-18, 6-21, and 21-8.

Although not competing for a trip to St. Louis, 22 teams entered the open doubles, and put on some exciting matches. Hank Marcus and Tony Krause took the doubles title by scores of 21-14 and 21-10 over second place Williams-Reynolds; and the team of Carley-Scott took third by defeating Smith-Lubisich, 21-15, 21-15.

See Scoreboard for additional results.
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.

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

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The best reason for you to buy our racquets is our racquetball.
By George O. Long

The Mid-Atlantic regional tournament drew 105 eager racquetballers from every state in the region to the Central YMCA, Richmond, Va., for our first region seven tourney.

The event—in a nut shell—was three days of good and sometimes great racquetball, and just as importantly, it was three days of great fellowship, and sportsmanship among players, fans, and the wonderful people of the Richmond, Va., YMCA.

The open division saw 50 contestants vying for the first place prize of full fare to St. Louis, as well as the beautiful trophies.

Dr. Bill King, Sr., Radford, Va., headed the list of seeds followed by Willie Wong, Newark, Del., and Tom Whipple, Silver Springs, Md.

The seeding chart held true to form through the first three rounds with few exceptions, most notably with fourth seeded George Long losing to unseeded Ron Dick, Huntington, W. Va., in the second round; and Virginia state finalist Rich Scordos, Roanoke, falling to unseeded Rich Dreisen, Potomac.

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Tom Whipple ended the speculation Sunday afternoon as he came out shooting the ball from everywhere on the court to stop King in 21-20 in their first game. Whipple continued his great shooting after the break to take a 13-8 lead in the second game. Up to this point King was having trouble with his usually excellent “Z” serve off the back wall and Whipple was responding by hitting 80 percent kills.

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Dreisen captured third place with two incredible comebacks, defeating Ron Dick 11-21, 21-20, 21-19, twice coming from behind (12-30 and 12-19) to win.

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Although small, the field was strong, headed by Kentucky state champion Theresa Darland, Peewee Valley, Kentucky; Carol French, the newly crowned Virginia state champion from Newport News, Va., and Sue Graham, Alexandria, Va., who had placed fourth in last year’s Southern regionals. The first two rounds of play saw the top seeds roll through the opposition easily.

In the semifinals Darland and Graham played a great match with Graham winning the first game, 21-18, only to have Darland come back and take the final two games on the strength of her powerful backhand. In the other half of the draw French had an easier time, defeating Becky Pickett of Bloomberg, Pa.

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Sullivan topped Loughrey; and Roberson defeated Baynard in the semifinals.

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The master’s field of thirteen was completely dominated by Raleigh, N.C. John Hogan of that city and seeded number one defeated Stan Simon, 21-13, 21-18. In the semifinals Hogan defeated Dan Potter, Baltimore, while Simon was coming from behind to defeat Dub Freshwater, Williamsburg, N.C., 21-20, in the third.

The junior field of seven contestants saw Kevin Becker, Wheeling, defeat Chris Humphrey, Burlington, N.C. for the crown. The play and sportsmanship of the juniors was admired, and the fact that only seven were entered in the seven state regional play posts a challenge for the Mid-Atlantic organization. Next year the field should be doubled or tripled. The future of the sport lies here.

The golden masters gave the fans a fine display of racquetball, and a good example of what Racquetball can do for conditioning and health throughout one’s life.

Bill Wilson defeated Walt Cuenin, owner of the Courts Royal Racquetball club and Bill Church defeated David Lewis, White Stone, Va. Wilson then met and defeated Church in the finals for the regional crown.

While others slept, wept, schemed and dreamed of the games to play, the crew of Bill Buckman, Bill Bolton, Dan Curl, and Jeff Stone, and other members of the YMCA kept the scores of the games played, and prevented any breakdown in the flow of communications so vital to a well run three-day event.

To tie all ends together, to present trophies, and pay proper recognition to the new regional crowned heads, a banquet was sponsored at the Franklin Street Holiday Inn.

In men’s and women’s singles, it’s—respectively—

King and French in Mid-Atlantic regionals

The women’s division was the only one that drew plenty of spectators and volunteer referees . . .

The event—a nut shell—was three days of good and sometimes great racquetball, and just as importantly, it was three days of great fellowship, and sportsmanship among players, fans, and the wonderful people of the Richmond, Va., YMCA.

The open division saw 50 contestants vying for the first place prize of full fare to St. Louis, as well as the beautiful trophies.

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"Leading Money Winner on Both Pro Tours."

⭐ CHARLIE BRUMFIELD: Racquetball's Super Star holder 20 International and National Titles. 1st in Pro Tourney (Kentucky)
⭐ CRAIG McCOY: Top open singles and doubles star. 2nd in Pro Tourney (Kentucky)
⭐ JAN CAMPBELL: Singles Star & National Women's Doubles Finalist.

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IF YOU'VE TRIED THE REST—NOW TRY THE BEST. Electronically balanced to make the racquet a natural extension of the arm. The CARBON STAR allows you to execute a full range of shots with infinite ease. The ultra tough carbon composite gives you the confidence that you'll be winning with the BRUMFIELD CARBON for a long, long time.

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If BRUMSTAR racquets are unavailable in your area, write for name of a dealer nearest you. Dealer and Institutional inquiries invited.

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San Diego, Calif. 92111
(714) 560-5333
205 Racquetball buffs gathered in San Carlos, California, to do battle in the prestigious Western Regionals hosted by Supreme Court II February 28, March 1 and 2.

After the smoke had cleared, Steve Dunn was the open singles winner; Deryck Clay took senior singles; John Halverson continued to dominate the masters; Cal Murphy capped the golden master title; Jan Campbell took the women's crown; and Steve Trent won the honors for the juniors.

The open singles finale was a match of youth and inexperience against a seasoned, tournament-veteran. After Steve Dunn and Mark Wayne had split the first two games by identical 21-18 scores, it looked as though Mark had the third game under control. After being behind early in the match, he came storming back to take a 19-18 lead and still serving. Steve put the match on the line by gambling with his serve return. He rolled it out and then proceeded to hit three absolutely flat kills shots to suddenly walk off with the laurels.

Probably the most exciting match of the tournament was Deryck Clay's dramatic come-from-behind victory over San Diego's Jim Trent. Jim completely dominated the first game rolling out backhands from everywhere. The second game looked like an exact duplicate of the first. Trailing 6-17, Clay called a time out in a last ditch effort to get something going. And get something going he did. He outscored Trent 15-1 to steal the second game. Jim was so demoralized after the loss that he went quietly in the third, 21-12.

The women's division was loaded. The semifinals saw tourney favorite Jan Campbell crush Utah's Ruth Knudsen, 21-12, 21-1, with excellent racquetball. In the lower half, second seeded Janell Marriot from Utah had her hands full with newcomer Sylvia Hooks, playing in only her third tournament. Consistent kill shots made the difference as Janell defeated Sylvia, 21-15, 21-18. The finals saw Jan hang on to defeat the much improved Salt Lake City gal, 21-19, 21-16.

In other events, Steve Dunn teamed up with brother Bill to take the open doubles, but not without a struggle as Ron Starkman and Keith Calkins gave them all they could handle before losing, 21-6, 20-21, 21-18. Bruce Werner from Chabot dominated B singles by not losing a game and defeating Stockton's Gordy Drysdale in the finals, 21-13, 21-17. Two Arizonans took the B doubles title. Paul Banales and Kim Sailors defeated Werner and Don Green, 21-11, 21-14.

See Scoreboard for additional scores.

**Western regional champions**

**Steve Dunn — open singles**

**John Halverson — masters**

**Cal Murphy — golden masters**

**Jan Campbell — women's singles**

**Steve Trent — juniors**

In spite of airline strikes . . .

Moose Country survives and Velan prevails

Dave Nicholl managed to compete and conduct the tournament, doing better at managing the affair than he did in the competition.

**QUEBEC OPEN**

In the open singles of the Quebec tournament thirty players entered, with Ivan Velan again bearing down to take the title and emerge number one seed. John B. Spencer, IRA Eastern region representative, was second in the three game match.

MAY-JUNE 1975
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A member company of Brown Group, Inc.
By Brian Parrott

In the first round of the Midwest Regionals Jeff Bowman from the University of Illinois drew a bye. From that point he coasted downhill through ten consecutive games to emerge the men’s open singles champion of region five.

Bowman is a strong, curly haired 20-year-old who resembles Steve Keeley in appearance and on the court. He shoots anything that even resembles a mistake and can be devastating when he turns on the pressure.

The new regional champion’s matches were not as close as the scores indicate. In all five pairings and all ten games none of his opponents failed to score less than ten points (with one exception), and most games stopped at about 21-15. Bowman did not give the appearance of playing with his opposition, but rather seemed to be playing low percentage kills until the score got too close for comfort.

At that point he would wait for the competition to make a mistake that he could use to put away the game. He should be a high seed in the nationals and is definitely a comer.

Bill Gottlieb entered the finals with Bowman after following an identical pattern. He had drawn a bye in the first round, then proceeded to win ten straight games with five opponents. The notable difference being that Gottlieb had posted stronger winning scores, with his opposition tallying far fewer points than had been the case with Bowman.

McCARTHY TAKES WOMEN’S

Camille McCarthy continues to do her thing—winning—in her own way. The Indianapolis lass turned back Sue Carow, Glenview, Illinois, in three tough games: 4-21, 21-16, 21-11. McCarthy is an exceptionally well-conditioned athlete, smart, and seldom the loser in a three game match. She has a history of losing the first game by what appears to be a lop-sided score, then coming back in the second game with a fairly close score, apparently designed to wear down her opponent. The third, and final, game is all one way: Camille, in an easy win.

Whether this analysis is accurate, it fits a number of instances, and whether the strategy is a good one or not, it certainly builds suspense.

Third place in the women’s open went to Jane Pritchett who had been eliminated in the first round by Ingrid Montecino. Pritchett then took three straight games to win the consolation bracket.

Consolation winner in the men’s open singles went to Clark Pittman who had been shunted to the left side of the brackets by Rudi Losche, 13-21, 21-5, 21-16, in the second round of play. Pittman started up the ladder again by stopping Spaulding in two games, 21-10, 21-14, and followed that performance with seven more additional wins without a loss.

Jerry Davis took first place in the senior division besting Don Webb of Champaign, Illinois, 21-10, 8-21, 21-8, in the finals. Chuck Ginther put down Ed Schacker’s bid in the consolations, 21-13, 21-10, to take that division.

In the masters, Earl Dixon allowed a total of 40 points to be scored against him in six games, proving the old adage that some 47-year-old men have no business playing in the master’s bracket, but the younger players are mighty glad such a bracket exists. (Old adages abound in racquetball ever since the Gar began putting pen to paper.)

Taking second place was Philip Dzuik who dropped a pair to Dixon, 21-6, 21-3. In the master’s Bill Blackburn defeated Del Daines, 21-15, 21-8, to win the consolation.

In the golden master’s round robin, Bill Kennedy was too much for the rest of the field. Kennedy, a former Detroit Lion’s football player, scored 4-0 to Chuck Spaulding’s 3-1 record. Kennedy is very good and could deserve the number one seeding at the nationals. I don’t think Gurner will have a chance.

Steve Sulli dominated the junior’s round robin (3-0) with almost identical scores—21-1, 21-4 in the first match; 21-1, 21-2 in the second match; and 21-2, 21-4 in the third. The performance left the rest of the field in a three way tie for second. The standing of the young player, however, was hard to judge, and will be decided later with stronger competition.

Jim Stevens was chosen by the players as the outstanding referee of the tournament and was presented a racquet donated by Brum Star. The tournament sponsors applauded the choice of recipients, and also thanked Brum and Star.

From setting up the original brackets, to keeping track of the forfeits, byes, and scores of over 300 games and answering countless questions, some sort of award is due Lisa Haupt, Kim Pittman, Jim Stevens, Ash Bishop, and Orest Boyko. To decide to hold a tournament is an easy decision. To operate one is another matter. These people can explain this particular old adage. And, if they can’t, maybe a big bird will whisper it in your ear.

See Scoreboard for additional results.
If you wanted to see one of the most exciting tournaments ever held, you should have been in Dallas, Texas, the weekend of February 14-16. This was the site of the IRA's Ray and Clare Stern's Pro-Am Celebrity Racquetball Tournament. The total prize money for both the men's and women's events was $10,000. Yes, you have read correctly: $10,000. The winner of the men's tournament received $2,000, and the women's winner received $1,000. The rest of the money was divided among the men's finishers from second to eighth, and from second to fourth among the ladies.

You also noticed that the word celebrities was mentioned above. Billie Jean King's father, and Sheeky Greene both play racquetball. At the tournament itself, were Adam West of Batman fame; Lana Wood, younger sister of Natalie; Chris Connelly and Tommy Cook of TV fame; and Joe Gibbs, coach of the St. Louis Cardinals football team.

Gibbs feels that, "Racquetball is being taken up by many football players during the off season. It is tremendous for hand-eye co-ordination. Also, it gears you for explosive spurts. I find it relaxing and fun; but most important of all, it keeps me in condition."

By now, you are probably wondering, "What is racquetball, and how is it played?"

Ten years ago handball players were screaming, "Don't let those #$?!?*# racquetball players on our courts!" "Why?" you may ask. The answer is a simple one. Racquetball was taking away some of their court time.

All that has changed now. Handball players welcome racquetball players today. Why? It is due to the fact that racquetball courts are being built at an incredible rate. Jewish Centers, YMCA's, and colleges are all building courts. Court clubs are being built all over the country. Ninety percent of the court use is for racquetball. The handball players never had it so good. They're finally getting the courts they've been screaming for all these years. You have probably gathered by now that handball and racquetball are played on the same courts.

As for the game itself, racquetball is not to be confused with paddleball, paddle tennis, platform tennis, court tennis, jai-alai, or sex.

The racquet looks like a sawed off tennis racket, and is about 18-inches long. Racquets cost from $10 to $45, and are made of wood, plastic, fiberglass or aluminum. The ball is a lively dark ball about the size of a tennis ball, and sells from $1 to $1.50.

The game is played on a court forty feet long, and twenty feet high. Just imagine a large white room with the above dimensions. (Some courts have glass sidewalls, or backwalls to increase spectator viewing.)
The first person to score twenty-one points wins the game. To win a match, you must win two games before your opponent does. There is no deuce at 20-20. You would win by 21-20.

To begin play, the server must stand between two black lines on the court. You can only score a point when you are serving. As in tennis, you get two serves. You must bounce the ball, and then hit it to the front wall in the air. The ball must then pass by the server over the second black line in the air. The second black line is located across the middle of the court. The opponent must return the ball to the front wall. He may take the serve in the air or on a bounce. He can hit any combination of walls, including the ceiling, to get the ball to the front wall.

As long as the ball doesn’t hit the floor before it hits the front wall, it is a good shot. The only time a standard ceiling ball is not good is on the serve.

The game is on! Each player keeps returning the ball to the front wall, until the other person misses a shot. A missed shot is any shot that is returned on two bounces. Also, if you do return the shot in the air, or on one bounce, the ball must reach the front wall without touching the floor again.

Why is the game so popular? The bounce of the ball is very lively. This means the ball stays in play so long, you get a tremendous workout. In an hour, you are dripping wet. But, you are enjoying it!

Also, you don’t have to worry about being rained out; as the courts are naturally enclosed. Another advantage of racquetball is that you can practice on a court by yourself, and you will get a tremendous workout.

Right now racquetball is literally booming on the west coast. In San Diego and San Francisco, they can’t build courts fast enough. And in St. Louis they will soon have nine facilities operating with racquetball courts. It is the same all over the country. Racquetball is booming!

Many new tennis centers, and some old ones, are adding racquetball courts. People are more concerned about physical fitness and enjoying themselves than ever before. Racquetball is the answer.

Who are the top pros in racquetball?

Let’s start with Steve Keeley. Keeley was the recent winner of the Dallas pro tourney. He is twenty-six years old, six feet tall, and weighs 170 pounds. He is a veterinarian by profession, but admittedly has only spayed a chipmunk in the past eight months.

Keeley’s conditioning, acrobatic returns, and court strategy are second to none. His shots are tremendous, and he is also famous for such racquetball lingo as the “freak ball” (one that takes a weird bounce), and the “Denkey Kick.” This results when two players collide and both their legs are kicked out from under them.

There is also twenty-six-year-old Charlie Brumfield. Brumfield is a lawyer, and is well known for his ego and psyching out of opponents. Charlie has said, “When I’m not concentrating well, I’m very good. When I’m really concentrating, I’m overpowering.”

Bill Schmidtke, age 33, is the present National Champion. He has the best forehand in the game, and is famous for his clutch performance. Even though Bill is National Champion, it has been said, “His success has never gone to his clothes.”

As for conditioning, few athletes are in the shape of twenty-five-year-old Steve Strandemo, who says, “I work out three-four days a week at the beach for two hour periods. I do sprints, exercises, situps, and stretching exercises. I also play five times a week for two hours a day.”

One cannot forget nineteen-year-old Steve Serot. Steve not only hits the ball harder than anyone in the United States, he also has a full scholarship to San Diego State for racquetball. Yes, for racquetball! That shows you how far this game has progressed.

Racquetball is for everyone. If you want to get a good workout, feel absolutely great, and above all, enjoy yourself, PLAY RACQUETBALL!
Wright and Steding -- Texas state champions

By Bruce Hendin

The Racquetball & Handball Club of San Antonio hosted the first Texas Championship Tournament April 4, 5, 6, attracting 225 entries from all across the state.

Pete Wright of Dallas defeated Tom McKie of Big D, 21-11, 21-14, in the Open Division, and in the "B" division, Neal Wong, San Antonio, squeaked by John Jameson, Austin, 21-19, 21-14.

In the Men's "C" Division, Dan Travaille, Houston, beat Bill Fay, also of Houston.

In the Seniort Division, Jack Hood, 53 years young, San Antonio, defeated tournament favorite, Bruce Diamond, Dallas, 21-14, 14-21, 21-11.

Mark Malowitz, Houston, beat up-and-coming Larry Nitischin, also of Houston, in the Junior Division, 21-5, 21-16. Bobby Stone, San Antonio, finished 3rd. Watch him in the future.

Mrs. Racquetball, Peggy Steding of Odessa, had little trouble with Shannon Wright, Dallas, 21-17, 21-5. But Shannon will be a name to contend with shortly in the Women's World of Racquetball.

Suzanne Storey, Friendswood, defeated Barbara Syamken of San Antonio, 21-1, 21-6.

Tom McKie teamed with Luther Bernstein to defeat Bill Sellers and Rich Walker, all of Dallas, 21-14, 21-16, in Open Doubles.

The club with its 8 courts is making plans to host the Texas championships on an annual basis. The investors, led by Bruce Hendin, are presently making plans to announce similar Clubs to be built in North Dallas, Fort Worth, and Houston!

Have You Renewed Your IRA Memberships?
The International Racquetball Association would like to take this opportunity to thank...

for sponsoring the Pro-Am Tournament in Houston, Texas

It is a great help to the association when a sponsor supports one of our top tournaments.
Charlie Brumfield (The People's Choice) became a three-time winner in the IRA's fifth professional tournament by defeating Strandemo, 21-15, 21-7, in the finals of the Ektelon Pro-Am in Houston, Texas. It was held at the Downtown YMCA, and enabled Brumfield to win $1500. This brought Charlie's IRA winnings to $6,100. Not bad for five weekends work.

Before the match, Charlie was asked, "Why do you feel Strandemo is playing so super in every tournament?" Our ever-loving Charlie remarked, "That's easy. We've been playing a lot in practice, and my brilliance had to wear off on him sooner or later."

Actually, Strandemo had two brutal matches prior to his final with Brumfield. One was in the quarters against Mike Zeitman, and the other was against Bill Schmidtké in the semifinals. As for the match itself, Brumfield broke to an early 15-6 lead. He was shooting and passing well, and Strandemo was obviously struggling. At this point, Brumfield looked through the mailbox like slot on the door to the court, and gave me a Brumfield glare. (I had been watching part of the match through the slot.)

Who knows what effect this had on the Brum? All I know is, he lost the next nine points. Strandemo was shooting and rolling them out, but he was also punishing himself. Charlie was not shooting at this point. At 15-15, Brumfield again assumed command. Four brilliant Brumfield shots, and two Strandemo errors gave Brumfield the first game at 21-15. "I finished with my usual awesome array of shots," Charlie said.

As for Strandemo, he was finished. His play the day before, and his comeback in the first game apparently had exhausted him both physically and mentally. In game two, Charlie jumped out to a 12-1 lead. He was shooting and moving well, and Strandemo couldn't get set. Charlie ran out the game at 21-7.

It was a clean match, and much different from a year ago, when Strandemo pulled one of the biggest upsets in the history of racquetball, by defeating Brumfield in the first pro tourney in history.

Charlie said, "Strandemo is getting to be so nice lately; he may move up from twenty-fifth to twenty-fourth on the all time sportsmanship list."

Strandemo remarked, "It's getting to the point I have to get in even better shape. I've been consistently getting to semi-finals and finals, and it's taking a lot out of me. I feel overracquetballed. (Is there such a word?) I need to get away from the game a little. Give Charlie credit though. He just outplayed me. Zeitman and Schmidtké deserve a lot of credit too. They both took a lot out of me. I had to win the first game. Unless I'm moving well, I won't do well. I'm going to increase my training." (Is there more than twenty-four hours in a day?)

As for the semifinals, Strandemo defeated National Champion Bill Schmidtké, 21-9, 21-18, in a match that was much harder and closer than the score indicates. Probably of more importance, Strandemo wrested Schmidtké's World's Worst Dressed Title away from him. (At least for the weekend.)

At dinner, the previous night, Strandemo was the center of attention at the Holiday Inn's finest restaurant. He was wearing a white Houston YMCA T-shirt, with his yellow warm-up pants. One leg had two holes in the left knee, and a bloodstain was seen on the other knee. He also had on his old pair of black and white Buddy sneakers. This, combined with his four day old tattletale gray wristband, gave Strandemo Schmidtké's Clothing title for the weekend.

As for the match itself, Strandemo easily won the first game as he was shooting extremely well. Schmidtké was missing, and it was apparent that his hard three game match with Jerry Hilecher was taking its toll. As usual, Bill made his strong comeback. He went ahead 10-4 in the second game. From 10-4 to the close of the game, a brutal, hard fought game ensued.

Even though it was tough, both players were perfect gentlemen. The score went to 14-12. With both players returning everything in perhaps the longest rally of the season, Schmidtké was lying flat on the floor, and rolled one out to make it 15-12. They had run so much, that when Schmidtké got up, he held out his hand and said, "Steve, you've just joined the 1,000 mile club for 1975."

The score went to 17-12; then 18-15. Both players were tired, and it was hard to score points. At 17-18, Strandemo called a double bounce on himself. Not that this was surprising, but the time, date, and place have been recorded in Ripley's Believe It or Not.

Schmidtké just couldn't score the last few needed points. Strandemo tied at 18-18. Two Strandemo kill shots, and a Schmidtké error, gave the match to Strandemo.

Schmidtké said afterwards, "It took me a game to warm up. My legs hurt. Strandemo was tough in the first game though.

"The second game was a real donnybrook. I switched to a heavier racquet. I had a better follow through and was passing better. At 13-8, I made some dump shots. He made some good serves that screened me out. At 13-12, I made some good serves.

"The score went to 17-12. He was setting me up. He hadn't been doing that. Then it changed. I gave him some points. The funny thing was he was more tired than I was. I felt that I could have won if it had gone three. I was also sore about losing my Clothing title the night before.

RACQUETBALL
"I'm playing better and I'm enjoying it more. I had to do something to break the momentum, but I didn't. Usually the player who has the momentum gets the lucky shots."

Strandemo said, "I thought I had to keep the ball on the left wall. I'm in good shape; but not in super-shape. Schmidtke's forehand is super again."

"In game two, I tried to keep it away from his forehand. He went ahead, 10-2. I went to the ceiling more. I was fortunate to edge back." "I hit some winners in the right corner at the end. Most encouraging for me, is that I'm putting my forehand away in the right corner. I'm making the guy really reach." 

In the other semifinals, Brumfield was destroying young Craig "Howdy" McCoy. If you remember Howdy Doody, then you know what Craig looks like. In fact, Brumfield made him look like a puppet on a string.

Brumfield said, "I play better against lefties. I do traditionally well against younger players. (Didn't Bill Tilden once say the same thing?) Once I get a lead, they're gone. My reputation doesn't hurt either. How would you like to be an 18 year old kid playing against the great Brumfield? I'd be scared myself. The older fellows aren't awed like the younger kids. I also talk to them before I play them. That usually completes the psych job." Brumfield won, 21-10. That tells the whole story.

As for McCoy, he was thoroughly dejected. "It was just one of those days. Everything I hit went into the ground. I wasn't thinking or concentrating. Everything he hit was super. Charlie controlled the middle. He got everything, and I wasn't playing well going in. If confident, I would have done better. I still wouldn't have won. Charlie's playing just great. He's running me around the court like he used to."

Actually, McCoy is sponsored by Brumstar. There was some rumor that Charlie was holding up his plane ticket, if McCoy scored more than twelve points in two games. Charlie wouldn't do a thing like that. Would he?

In a lackluster match for third place, recently displaced National Clothing Champ Bill Schmidtke defeated Craig McCoy, 21-14, 21-20.

In the quarterfinals Bill Schmidtke defeated Jerry Hilecher, 21-4, 17-21, 21-14. As Jerry himself said, "Schmidtke was unbelievable. At 15-1, I didn't really know what to do. He was killing everything. It's the best he's played in months. I wasn't sharp; but Schmidtke played as if he were possessed." In fact, there was a rumor that he had had an exorcism that morning.

Schmidtke said, "If I knew that I was going to lose my Clothing Championship, I may not have played so well. I tried to shoot every time I got my shot. I was hitting with a lot of spin. I'm more patient on my ceiling balls, and I'm not shooting off the serve as much anymore."

"The balls are faster, and I can hit a better ceiling ball with this ball. Ceiling ball games and hard hitters give me trouble."

(He's lucky! Soft games, hard games, good ceiling ball games, bad ceiling ball games, good players, and bad players all give me trouble.)

"The other thing that really got me mad, is that Hilecher rated me No. 2 on the best forehand list behind himself. Can you believe that?"

When asked what happened in the second game, Bill replied, "I lost my concentration a little, and Jerry played better. I wasn't taking enough time on my serve in the second game."

"In the third game, I went ahead to 16-9. I served hard drive serves, and I was able to hold on for a 21-14 win. My backhand is so much better than it ever has been. I feel a lot better. My confidence is back. My racquet feels good too."
Zeitman said, "I couldn't get untracked in the first game.

"In game two, I had Strandemo completely disorganized. I was serving and moving well. I aced about four serves. I was really moving up on the ball.

"In game three, I was in there. But, at 10-15, I couldn't get going. I wasn't serving well, and I was cramped in the back of my legs. I've got to start running a lot more now. I feel I really wore Strandemo down." Believe me, he did.

Mike, who is known for his super physique, said, "I want to show you a muscle that I have in an unusual place." We were worried for a minute, but thank goodness, it was only in his forearm.

In the final quarterfinal match Craig McCoy defeated Dr. Bud Muchelisen, 14-21, 21-15, 21-16, in a sometimes brilliant yet erratic match. Dr. Bud has done remarkably well on the tour, and is still the equal of anyone in doubles. He probably will be remembered for being the softest touch, I mean, having the softest touch in the history of racquetball.

There were some interesting first round matches, too. Davey Bledsoe had Brumfield, 9-9, 13-1 in the first game. Then Charlie came back. He pulled a few Brumfield's that should put him ahead of Thurman on the all time cheaters list, and hung on for a 21-20 first game win. The second was a routine 21-5 game.

Bledsoe said, "I beat Charlie in Memphis. I should have won the first game today. I do well against Charlie, because my drive serves give him trouble. That gives me easy returns. I'm quick, and I retrieve well. I'm going to give myself a year. I think I can go right to the top." Some other people think so too. (His mother, his father, his dog, etc.) It will be interesting to see, as Davey has a world of potential.

In the only first round match to go three games, Thurman defeated "The Big Bird," 20-21, 21-6, 21-9. It was evident Thurman could give Brumfield a good match the way he was playing. Garfinkel had a good excuse though. He cracked a wing early in the second game.

Going into the IRA Championships in May, Brumfield emerges as the top money winner with $8,100; followed by Strandemo with $4,900.

One innovative feature that went over well, was the Pro Am Doubles. It was divided into two flights. The top flight had the top seven teams, and the bottom flight had the next seven teams. Fourteen pros were matched with 14 amateurs.

Teams one and eight worked as one team. Teams two worked with Team nine, etc.

The matches were all thirty-one points. You scored whether you were serving or not. You also had to alternate serves.

All teams in the top flight played each other, as did all teams in the bottom flight. The totals of each combined team, such as one and eight, were totalled after all their matches.

The winning combination were the teams of Bill Schmidtke-Paul Darnell, and Jerry Hilecher-Barry Dollar. The pros split the prize money of $1,200.

The pros enjoyed it, but they didn't enjoy playing six extra doubles matches while they were playing singles.

Perhaps, it could be held the day before, or the day after the tourney. Or, there is some talk of having a separate doubles tourney like this.

Peggy Steding managed to win both the Women's and Senior Singles, and also did well in the Pro Am Doubles. Besides that, she only messed up 2½ hairs in her hairdo. It is amazing the energy and endurance she has; not to mention her ability.

In the women's singles final, against Jan Pasternak, Peggy said, "I was put-ting the ball away. Jan played well though. I played 12½ matches in 2½ days. (She said this as she was adjusting her Supergirl outfit.) Staying healthy really helps. I'm playing better now. My control and power are much better. I've been home a lot, and it helps to get away from the grind." Peggy won by scores of 21-17, 21-10.

In the Senior Singles, Peggy defeated fifty-three year old Ray DuPre by the scores of 21-9, 21-12. She controlled the play throughout.

Before the open singles final was played, a group of us, including Brumfield, Strandemo, Mike Mace, Bledsoe went to watch the semifinals of the women's pro tennis matches. Evonne Goolagong was playing Chris Evert. It was a tense match, and we were talking rather loudly. Especially Brumfield. In tennis, you never, never, say anything during the rally. Charlie was doing it constantly, and was asked by a gentleman in front of us to kindly refrain. On the very next point, Charlie screamed, "Come on Chris!!" The gentleman not only fell off his seat, but he shattered his hearing aid as he rolled down the steps. I don't know why, but we weren't invited back for the finals.

In the Open Singles final, twenty-four year old Bob Rogers defeated nineteen year old Kevin Meyer by the scores of 21-17, 21-14. Bob remarked, "I played five years of squash at MIT. I'm playing racquetball, because there's more competition around here. I serve and retrieve well, but I've got to really work on my shooting game. I'll see how I do, and then I'll decide on more tournaments." Bob could be tough. He moves beautifully, but will have to work on his shots more.

In the B singles, Doug Moreau defeated Paul Darnell by the scores of 21-17, 21-15. Their remarks were interesting. Moreau said, "I shot real well. I passed at crucial times. I was just lucky. There was no skill whatsoever involved. My backhand needs work. My ceiling game needs work. I'm still inconsistent." That was the winner?

As for Darnell, he remarked, "He was so hot that a keg of ice couldn't cool him off. His passing shots never hit the back wall. He's a good hustler. He just played better than I did."

That completes the IRA tour. On to St. Louis for the greatest Nationals yet. Will it be Schmidtke, Brumfield, Strandemo, Keeley, or Serot? If Serot and Keeley get their entries in on time, they may have a chance. Look for other articles in this issue for ratings and rankings of present and all time players. Happy Hiders.—THE GAR

RACQUETBALL
Letters, continued from page 2

• Members of the Washington State Racquetball Association met at the Tumwater Valley Racquet Club April 25 and discussed a number of items we feel are important to the future health and well-being of the association in particular, and the sport in general.

Items under discussion included 1. The Ball—we talked about makes, models, rules and regulations. We also decided to discuss this later at greater length. 2. Formation of a committee or a group of some sort with authority, such as a “Tournament Committee” to represent, inform, and report the state of Washington tournaments; and importantly to solve the problem of “tournament sandbaggers.” 3. Seeding: ideas such as a seeding committee to base findings on results, entrants per class, per tournament, etc., were discussed. 4. Referees: agreement reached that this is a problem area and that clinics or some qualifying stature would be helpful in solving the problem. 5. Admission of novice and “C” players in open doubles. 6. Women: it was felt some new rules, or clarification of existing rules are needed with regard to women’s tournaments and mixed doubles.

It is our responsibility as players and observers to correct bad situations before they become a permanent part of the picture. One of the more helpful things we can do is to set up some type of clinic to teach novice players the proper way to play and improve their games. I have some basic material that we use in our clinics for those of you who want it. You can easily add to these instructions to make them completely informative for your purposes.

Below you will find a list of people who volunteered to serve as area representatives.

Gary Poppino, 1109 W. 43 St., Vancouver (706-933-2222); Doug Moore, 625 Hanna Ave., Aberdeen (532-7221); Dan Nye, 263 24th St., Longview (636-4192); Dave Baird, 1524 S. Miller, Wenatchee (509-663-4862); Bill Clemmons, 7015 Carolina Lane, Vancouver (206-329-0467); Terry Friedlander, 654 Fulleton Ave., Seattle (206-329-0467); Also: Tom Graham, 30 W. “T” St., Apt. 21, Tumwater (753-5874); Gene Altman, 4805 Desmond, Bellingham (206-734-8965); Steve Pulliam, 512 NE 72nd, Seattle (206-532-2597); Charles Jackson, Rt. 1, Box 128, Colbert (509-487-0620); Ray Oram, Jr., 848 S. Cowley, Spokane (838-5663); Sidney Williams, 1122 S. Kay St., Tacoma (206-272-1029); Russ Geis, c/o Olympia YMCA, 510 Franklin, Olympia. Al addresses are for the state of Washington.

Sid A. Williams
Tacoma, Washington

• Ten teams entered our South Bavarian doubles tournament April 26-27. Bob Dixie and LTC Richard Block came out on top. They beat Col. Robert Browne and LTC Dave Wagner, two local Muncheners, 17-21, 21-17, 21-12. It was a double elimination, and we had a lot of fun.

The magazine is very important to those of us who are outside the United States, and where play is so limited (and seldom on an official court—some of ours being 49 feet long!).

I am sure that our co-members stateside receive their magazines within a month after publication—at the very latest.

We, on the other hand, are lucky to get ours within two months after publication. I feel this situation could be improved if the magazine were sent via better class of mail delivery and if the publication were enclosed in a wrapper, envelope or other than a self cover. With improved delivery I feel we could obtain more member-subscribers.

I will be playing at the Heidelberg tournament May 9-11. It should be a good one with which to close out until fall.

Neil Spaulding
South Bavaria
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RACQUETBALL
The Northeast Regional Racquetball Tournament was filled with surprises, upsets and some sadness. The biggest upset occurred when third ranked Craig Guinter from Williamstown, Pa., met Mike Luciw from New Britain, Conn., in the open singles final and beat him 21-19, 11-21, 21-17.

The largest surprise was unknown and unseeded Phyllis Dumont from Maine who made it to the finals in the women’s open against Eileen Turiak, the cerebral swinger from Pennsylvania.

And the sadness occurred when in the midst of Charlie Garfinkel’s senior singles victory and his subsequent loss in the senior doubles final, he received several emergency telephone calls to inform him that his father was in critical condition in a Buffalo hospital. This, in addition to second-seeded Mike Romano’s forced withdrawal from the open singles because of pneumonia, was enough to put a pall on some of the finest racquetball seen in the East.

But with players like Garfinkel, Luciw, Guinter, Columbo, Poletta and the renown squash player, Victor Niederhoffer, the tournament did not lack excitement. In fact the excitement began in the first round when Niederhoffer, playing with a wooden racquet, began a string of victories that ended in the quarter-finals against Mike Luciw (in three games).

Niederhoffer, who predicted that he would win the Internationals this year, is a player of great potential. It will be interesting to see how far he goes in racquetball if he devotes full attention to the sport.

But let us get to the heart of the tournament, the exciting matches. In the master’s singles, Sam Poletta defeated a tired Mike Friedman by out-hustling and outshooting him. On his way to victory Sam took a forfeit win off Gene Grapes who is suffering from a severe case of tennis elbow.

The senior singles pitted Charlie Garfinkel against Pat Columbo in a match of Columbo’s speed against Garf’s backhand and pinch shots. Columbo, who flew around the court, had a small lead at 13-10 when Garfinkel, despite interruptions for emergency phone calls, pulled out the match in two games. Columbo, when asked what he thought of Garf’s victory, replied, “Anyone over 8’ 14” shouldn’t be allowed to play the game.”

The open singles championship match was between Craig “The Assassin” Guinter and Mike “Where’s the party?” Luciw. Luciw, winner of several Eastern titles was the favorite. He had just defeated Niederhoff and Leo Marsocci and was clearly the crowd’s favorite. But the imperturbable Guinter was not dismayed. Before the match he predicted that he’d beat Luciw 12 and 12. When asked about his tactics he replied, “I’ll slow the game down to my speed.”

The first game was tightly played and when Luciw put together three straight kills and jumped ahead 15-13, the crowd thought Guinter was done.

"19-15? I thought I had him 20-0."

But Craig, with some excellent “Z” serves and a brilliant fly kill, won the game, 21-19. The second game was all Luciw and his kill shot. Mike just killed and killed and killed. Final score, 21-11. It was the third game that saw the 31 year old Guinter use his coolness and court savvy to produce a victory. He was so relaxed that when the ref called out the score 19-15 (favor Guinter) he asked for the score again, saying, “I thought I had him 20-0”. The last game was 21-17. When asked what contributed most to his victory Guinter said, “My Ektelon racquet.”

The women’s singles final produced some great play when Eileen Turiak defeated Phyllis Dumont in a 3 game match. Turiak, playing a controlled, percentage game beat the powerful, but inexperienced Dumont, 21-12, 17-21, 21-3. Turiak, who runs 2 miles daily and teaches tennis and racquetball at private club in Pennsylvania, utilized effective change of pace shots and bazed home in the third game.

The juniors were won by John Moshiades against a small field. John won convincingly and will be a strong representative at the Internationals.

The golden masters champ was that ex-squash player Jack Bowling from Buffalo, N.Y., who despite being the oldest player in the tournament moved like one of the youngest.

Open doubles victors Luciw and Marsocci defeated a talented, young team from Pennsylvania, Joe Aguglia and Luke St. Onge. Luciw and Marsocci were just too powerful and experienced for the Pennsylvanians.

NOTABLE QUOTES:
Jim Winterton, semifinalist, open singles, “I have to thank my wife, Sue, for letting me out so often.
Charlie Garfinkel, with a broken ball resting on his nose, “Ref, I think the ball is broken, can we replay the point?”
June Romano, for ill husband, Mike, “He’ll be there in ’76.”
INSTRUCTION

Film study shows ball speed hits 80 mph

The accompanying article has been taken from William H. Mathews’ Master’s thesis entitled “A Cinematographical Analysis of Three Selected Serves in Three-Wall Racquetball.”

As racquetball’s popularity grows among men and women nationwide, its possibilities as a serious subject for physical education research grow.

An example is a master of arts thesis written at the University of Florida by William H. Mathews. With the technical title “A Cinematographical Analysis of Three Selected Serves in Three-Wall Racquetball,” the thesis documents Mathews’ efforts to draw reliable data from a group of players.

Four volunteers were used, two considered skilled and two unskilled. Three 16 mm. cameras operating at 64 frames per second captured the action from different viewpoints.

The players served an average of five balls each of a power, lob and two-wall serve on an outdoor three-wall racquetball court. Mathews analyzed the results with a slow motion data analyzer projector.

A summary of the results:

1. The type of stance (open, closed, square) did not appear to affect the outcome of the serve, in that a variety of types were used by the various players with similar results.

2. The width of stance was found to be consistently narrow for all subjects on all types of serves. The mean width of stance ranged from 5.57 inches to 8.14 inches for the unskilled and from 4.28 inches to 12.53 inches for the skilled.

3. The players demonstrated two types of grips, choked and unchoked or normal. There was no preference of one type of grip for either group, in that one skilled and one unskilled server each used a choked and unchoked grip. There was no deviation of the type of grip for any player on any particular type of serve.

4. Most racquetball players studied had varying lengths of backswing for the various types of serves. The power and two-wall high velocity serves demanded the longest backswings. Only an unskilled server employed a short backswing for all serves.

5. Skilled servers were found to project the ball away from the body toward the front wall on the ball release, whereas the unskilled passively released the ball near the vertical in the vicinity of the feet.

6. Most servers released the ball during the backswing for all types of serves.

7. During the service, a ball was struck at a low height (mid-thigh or lower) only on the high-velocity types of serves. The ball was served by most players from a moderate (waist-level) height on most types of serves.

8. Stride lengths during the serve were found to be greater for the skilled subjects than for the unskilled. Average lengths of stride for all serves ranged from 15.86 inches to 24.43 inches for the unskilled and from 24.00 inches to 34.39 inches for the skilled servers.

9. In terms of per cent of height, the mean stride lengths for all servers ranged from 21.4 per cent to 33.0 per cent for the unskilled, and from 35.0 per cent to 50.0 per cent for the skilled subjects. It was determined from these figures that the skilled players used an average stride for the three types of serves in excess of 41 per cent of their standing height, which was an average of 12 per cent longer than the unskilled. Strides were seen to be greatest on the high-velocity types of serves.

10. Forward striding toward the ball was predominant for most players on the majority of serves.

11. Flexed-and-straight-elbow styles on the downswing were used by both types of servers. Only one skilled server varied his style. Resultant velocities showed no superior style that could be attributed to style of swing.

12. Most servers—all skilled servers—contacted the ball as it was descending after the peak of the bounce.

13. All demonstrated a wrist roll after contact on some types of serves, but the skilled performers exhibited a more pronounced, forceful wrist roll than the unskilled servers.

14. Skilled servers always maintained proper eye concentration on the ball at contact with the racket, whereas the unskilled were inconsistent in maintaining proper eye concentration.

15. A more pronounced body action during the follow-through portion of the serve was shown more often by the skilled compared to the unskilled servers. Most servers displayed body action with the right arm high above the head and crossing the midline of the body.

16. Most servers demonstrated an orthodox rear leg action during the downswing phase of the serve. Skilled servers seemed to use this leg action to aid their forward momentum.

17. Average ball velocities on the power serve from the time of contact with the racket to the point of impact with the front wall were computed. The mean velocities for the unskilled subjects were 98.18 ft./sec. or 66.94 m.p.h., and for the skilled performers were 109.18 ft./sec. or 74.44 m.p.h. Highest velocities for the skilled subjects on similar power serves were discovered to be in excess of 118.0 ft./sec. or 80.4 m.p.h.

18. Various time parameters including time of backswing, downswing, and follow through were computed for all subjects on all serves, and the data indicated greater displacements of the armracket system during the downswing over comparable or shorter periods of time which seemed to produce greater resultant velocities in favor of the skilled servers.

The results presented here have numerous ramifications. By providing new knowledge about this segment of the game, the participant may become better acquainted with the proper technique, sound principles, and efficiency of movement necessary to execute the service.
Craig Guinter, nicknamed The Assassin, totally dominated the field as he became the first man to repeat as Pennsylvania Singles "A" Champion two years in a row.

Craig's beautiful court coverage and left side pinch shots kept local favorite Ron Galbreath off balance continually as Craig swept the finals, 21-19, 21-15. Guinter began slow with his game somewhat off stride and had a hard time with D. Sampson, New Castle, 21-19, 19-21, 21-12. In the quarterfinals Guinter met another strong left hander in Joe Aguila, Penn State, and again the match went three games, 21-16, 19-21, 21-6.

In the other quarterfinal matches Tom Schrimp, Williamsport, defeated D. Snyder, Harrisburg, 21-11, 21-15. Schrimp got hot and put his game together for Snyder and rolled everything out. Joe Jackman, New Castle, defeated Luke St. Onge, Penn State, in a marathon match with many turnovers. St. Onge finally succumbed to Jackman's left hand and overall experience, 21-18, 21-13. As Luke left the court he was overheard mumbling to Jackman "We shall meet again." Meanwhile R. Galbreath, New Castle, was setting the stage for his semifinal match with his doubles partner Jackman having little trouble defeating H. Miller, Franklin, 21-9, 21-12.

The semifinals found doubles partners against doubles partner with Guinter defeating Schrimp, 21-10, 21-19. Galbreath came out shooting and blew Jackman off the court, 21-5, 21-9. Thus the final showdown was set with reigning singles champ Guinter against heavily favored local star Galbreath.

Guinter had paced himself well and his game peaked for the finals. His overall court coverage was phenomenal and Galbreath was constantly on the defensive. Guinter remained stoic throughout the match (thus the nickname Assassin) and played beautiful percentage racquetball. Galbreath made several excellent comebacks much to the delight of the local gallery but when the smoke cleared Guinter was at the top again, 21-19, 21-15. In the battle for third, Jackman defeated Schrimp, 21-16, 12-21, 21-20.

In open doubles it was a different story. Top seeded Jackman and Galbreath blew by all competition into the semis. There, they were to meet the team of Grapes and Shattner. Not Gene Grapes (Gene was off in Honolulu getting some lessons from a local native) but his son, Tim Grapes.

Meanwhile, the third seeded team of St. Onge and Snyder were fighting their way through the lower bracket winning games mainly on whether or not Snyder's backhand was hitting. Due credit must be given to Guy Natalie, New Castle, who in the second game of his match with Snyder-St. Onge rolled out 14 straight points. Thus Snyder-St. Onge fought their way into semis where they were to meet the 2nd seeded team of Fellicetti, Clarion, and Cuneo, Pittsburgh.

Again St. Onge-Snyder repeated their inconsistency in the second game but came on to win the match, 21-19, 7-21, 21-7. Jackman-Galbreath were challenged by Grapes-Schattner but held on for a 21-13, 21-19 victory.

The finals found the hometown favorites and top seeded team of Jackman-Galbreath against photon team of St. Onge-Snyder. Game One was a seesaw match the whole way with each point contested by both sides and many turnovers at point. Finally with St. Onge serving at 16-20 they ran 5 quick points to win 21-20. Both teams served notice that this was going to be a long afternoon.

Game Two was little different than Game One except Jackman-Galbreath prevailed, 16-21. Game Three began as the last two, except closer with each team only able to salvage a point on each serve. The long weekend and long matches in Singles began to take its toll on Jackman. St. Onge and Snyder more and more isolated Galbreath and played to the tiring Jackman.

St. Onge and Snyder both peaked in Game Three with Snyder hitting beautiful side wall kills and passes. St. Onge's ceiling game and opportune kills finally put the game out of reach, 21-17. The doubles finals lasted close to four hours. Both teams are to be complimented on excellent sportsmanship and incredible "self calls" in pressure situations.

In the Men's "B" Singles, Tom Ranker, York, Pa., competing in his third tournament and playing less than a year, beat ex-pro linebacker Bob Mosier, New Castle, 21-17, 21-7. S. Stover, Pittsburgh, beat Jim Beamesderfer, Penn State, 21-7, 16-21, 21-11, for third.

Thanks go out to the New Castle "Y"-Bob Phillips, Physical Director, and Joe Jackman, Guy Natalie, Tournament Director, for the best State's to date.
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Wirkus wins Wisconsin state singles for third consecutive year, and the . . .

Standing room was
4-deep

By Bob Keenan

For the third consecutive year Joe Wirkus captured the Wisconsin Singles Racquetball championship! A full 32-draw in the open made Wirkus work extremely hard for his unprecedented third straight title.

The three day event drew 75 of Wisconsin’s finest players in three classes—open, seniors and masters, and frequently packed the 300-seat viewing area with a capacity crowd.

The host site was the recently constructed Western Racquet Club of Green Bay, Wisconsin. Six indoor tennis courts and five racquetball courts, plus a cocktail lounge and grill made ideal surroundings for the annual event.

Second round action saw Joe Wirkus pushed to three games by improved Gary Nusslock, Milwaukee. In the semi’s Wirkus topped Bill Harper, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and in the lower bracket second seeded Galen Johnson from Green Bay bested Tom Wirkus from Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin.

The stage was set for the Wirkus-Johnson showdown for the crown. With Johnson being a hometown favorite, the spectators really turned out to cheer him on. A full house sell-out! The match was scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday and by 1 p.m. all seats were sold (at $1 per head) plus four-deep standing room. The local favorite was ready. In the first game Johnson jumped off to a 12-2 lead after two innings. Game one ended 21-11, Johnson.

Wirkus knew he had to win game two and he did so decidedly, 21-6. Game three was a barn-burner with both contestants playing extremely hard to 12-12. Both had used two timeouts to this point. Johnson then ran four straight to make it 16-12. The crowd was applauding consistently by this time, sensing a hometown victory.

After taking his third time out, Wirkus regained serve and tied it up, 16-16. Johnson took it to 18-16 and Wirkus came back, 18-18. Johnson took a final time-out. Both players were fatigued and were taking as much time as possible between serves. Wirkus then tallied two more points making it 20-18, lost service, came back in again for number 21, and the title.

Total match time—two hours, 20 minutes.

SENIORS: Former two-time state champion Dan Trost revenged an earlier tournament loss by defeating fellow Milwaukeean, Joe Carini, 21-14, 21-15.

MASTERS: Jim White and John Fazio, reigning national masters doubles champs, met each other with White coming out on top, 17-21, 21-9, 21-10.

THIRD PLACE: In the open Bill Harper from Eau Claire bested Tom Wirkus for third place. And in the seniors, third place went to Bill Juckick, Milwaukee.

Third place in the masters went to Green Bay’s Chuck Austin over Fred Vetter, Milwaukee.

Western Racquet Club manager Gary Luebke managed to be everywhere when needed during the entire three days, and served as tournament director and floor manager. His two beautiful, behind-the-desk co-workers also contributed to a well run tournament; Mary Truttman and Kathy Austin were marvelous.
Rubenstein repeats as Illinois singles champion

By Robert J. Troyer

"DUE TO UNEXPECTED LARGE NUMBER OF ENTRIES WE REGRET THAT THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH COURTS TO ACCOMMODATE CONSOLATION ROUNDS."

The wording in the preceding paragraph is from a sign posted in the lobby of the “Courthouse” in Schaumburg, Illinois, during the state singles tournament February 13-16.

This year’s tournament drew a new record number of participants, jumping more than 100 percent from 110 last year to 236 this year. In the men’s B division, alone, there were 128 entries—18 more in this one division than in the entire 1974 tournament.

The 1975 state title play began a month before the singles with the doubles tournament being held January 17-19 at the Buehler YMCA in Palatine, Illinois.

In the doubles event, Al Levine and Ron Rubenstein took the men’s open doubles state championship by downing Don Webb and Bill Williamson, 21-8, 19-21, 21-20.

Probably the most exciting match of the tournament was the men’s finals. During the second and third games Webb and Williamson were playing superb racquetball, with Webb playing as outstanding a game as I have ever seen him play.

He was consistently making unbelievable backhand kills in the left corner from everywhere on the court.

In the third game Levine and Rubenstein rallied from an 18-20 deficit to win, 21-20. This makes the third straight year for them to have won the open men’s doubles.

In the men’s masters doubles Jimmy Divito and Sam Rizzio put everything together in the championship match. In addition to playing very smart racquetball, they killed extremely well and kept Ed Lammersfeld and Bob Taylor off balance taking the match, 21-13, 9-21, 21-14.

In the Women’s open doubles the finals went three games but Sue Carrow and Lois Dowd were too much for Bev Franks and Jean Sauser. The scores: 21-13, 15-21, 21-12.

ILLINOIS SINGLES CHAMP

There was great competition at the singles tournament, and a record number participating. The men’s open singles state championship was taken by Ronnie Rubenstein, as expected, but number two seed John Hart, fell in a minor upset to number three Jeff Bowman.

Rubenstein captures the title with two straight performances, 21-16, 21-19, over Bowman, who in turn defeated John Hart, 21-8 and 21-7.

MEN’S SENIORS: Fred Blaess went into the court the favorite, ac-

cording to the seeding, over number two Don Webb, and came out of the court the same way, having put away the challenger in two out of three games, but that is only part of the story.

Webb was playing the singles with the same skill he had shown a month earlier in the state doubles tournament. He dropped the first game to Blaess with an unimpressive showing, 21-11, then came back in the second winning 15-21. In the third and deciding game the match stood at 20-20 and each player had five chances to score before Blaess finally got a pass shot past Webb for the winning point.

MEN’S MASTERS: The battle was between last year’s top two players. In 1974 the winner was Bob Troyer over Phil Dziuk. This year the tables were turned, and Dziuk took the match, 21-18, 14-21, 21-16. Note the score totals. Dziuk’s total points are 56; Troyer’s 55. That’s another way of saying it was a tough three games.

MEN’S B: Gary Gerschke won the B division championship taking all seven of his games, and defeating second place Scott Hemphill, 21-11, 21-8, in the finals.

WOMEN’S OPEN: Top seeded Sue Carow and number two seed Jean Sauser split the first two games of their match. Then, during the third game Jean Sauser was hit by a racket in the face, requiring eleven stitches, and therefore had to forfeit. This was the only accident during the entire tournament.


WOMEN’S B: Hope Schwartz played true to form and maintained her number one seeded position by winning the B division title by downing Linda Holder, 21-11, 21-19, in the finals. Third place was taken handily by Debi Irving with a pair of wins over Sue Loomis, who had been placed as number two seed before the tournament. Score: 21-10, 21-14.

This was the first year that all divisions of competition were represented, and with his performance in January at the finals Neel Scheyer became the first winner of the men’s junior division for the state of Illinois. The promising young player defeated David Lee to take the title. Third place went to Ken Stone.

See Scoreboard for additional results.
Racquetball’s fame and fortune continues on the upswing in Virginia as everywhere and was evidenced in this year’s state tournament when the largest and toughest field of contestants ever assembled for a Virginia event met on March 14-17 in Richmond.

Six divisions of competition were offered this year, and in keeping with the surge of growth, two more will be added in 1976.

Headlining the army of contestants was Dr. Bill King who lived up to his top seeding by going through the open singles field like Sherman through the South. Those who had the opportunity to play against him came away better players, as did the large galleries of spectators who watched the Radford, Virginia, physician at work.

The strength of the singles field showed in the quarterfinals when second seeded (and 1974 state champion) Bill Buchman, Richmond, lost in three tremendous games to Herb Perlin, Norfolk.

Perlin made an unbelievable come-back after having lost the first game, being down 11-19 in the second, having to take a 15-minute injury time out, and then winning. He took the third game, 21-20.

Third seeded George Long, Dahlgren, Virginia, lost in three games—which seemed the order of the day, rather than two straight game matches—to a remarkably improved Rick Scordos, Roanoke, the 6th seed.

The open semifinals saw Dr. King defeat his old friend Jim Roberson. On the strength of about 400 previous games, Roberson was able to give King the stiffest opposition of the tourney.

Rick Scordos became the other finalist after having dispatched Herb Perlin in two straight, close games. Scordos had his hopes lifted when word went around that King would use a borrowed racquet. King had destroyed his Strandemo special on Roberson’s knee, but evidently he salvaged the skill if not the racquet, taking the finals and state singles title in two straight.

Roberson placed third by getting a default from Perlin, who when last seen was trying to pry his cramped fingers from his racquet handle. (This was only the second time in two years that Roberson had not played a three game match.)

The women’s open contained only four entries. This was the first year for this division, and though the field was small, it lacked nothing in quality. Sue Graham, Annondale, Va., was top seed. She had placed fourth in the 1974 Southern regions and was heavily favored.

Graham was heavily favored until Carol French, Newport News, entered. Carol French is a newcomer—relatively—to racquetball, but has a great future ahead of her in the sport. She defeated Graham handily in the finals displaying an all court game that had a lot of the male players happy that she didn’t enter their division.

B-Singles division was by far the largest in number of entries, and proved to be full of strengths. Richard Shipman of Newport News was the winner over Roy Moates. Tony Ballew, Roanoke, was third.

In the masters singles the Roanoke area continued to dominate the tourney capturing three of the final four spots. Paul Harris defeated Dr. Rafael Parris in the finals.

Ray Gordon and Bill Latouche teamed to take the golden master’s doubles crown defeating the team of Earl Childrey and Lewis Martin, both of Richmond.

The open doubles competition was fierce. In the first round the father-son team of Dr. Bill King-Bill King, Jr., gave notice to the field by overcoming leads of 3-17 in the first game and 21-15 in the second that they could come from behind—way behind—and still win. This was the younger King’s first tournament, and he showed improvement with each match.

The doubles semifinals saw Ted Larsen-Ad Reven from Northern Virginia defeat three-time state champions Bill Buchman-Tim Miller, Richmond, in three closely fought games. The other semifinals match saw Herb Perlin-Norman Sloan finally stop the Cinderella team of King-King.

Larsen-Reven took the doubles championship by winning in the finals over Perlin-Sloan. King and King, Jr., took third place with wins over Buchman-Miller.

Throughout the tournament—from planning to final wrap-up of a 101 details—the team of Bill Bolton, Rich Dunkum, Jeff Stone, and Bill Buchman were top-seeded, and deserve a title recognition for hosting the three day event.

In 1976 the Virginia state tournament will be even larger. There seems no way to avoid it. In ’76 the tournament will likely include a novice or “C” division as well as juniors, and after the women’s premier this year should have a much larger field of contestants in that event.
Jim Warner
Colorado singles champion

In the Colorado state singles championship Jim Warner continued the pattern with the un-cooperative assistance of Dave Glander. In the last few tournaments the two have entered Warner has managed to make the outcome read: Warner, first; Glander, second.

The play is always close. In the finals of the state tournament, the score in three games reads: 18-21, 21-20, 21-16.

Sid Peretti topped a field of twelve entries to take the Colorado masters division with two successive wins over Leo May, 21-11 and 21-12.

Nancy Gerou and Annie Blackford both drew byes in the first rounds, then proceeded to win their next six games to meet in the finals where Ms. Gerou was too much. The final scores: 21-9, 21-5, both for Nancy Gerou.

Seventy-four players entered the contender's division, making it the largest of the tournament. Dave Blackford and Lou Haskins eliminated five players each to meet in the finals where Blackford won both games, the first by the lopsided score of 21-2, and the second by 21-16.

The February state finals tournament was held at the Montbello Sporting House, Denver, under the direction of Tim Oliver, and IRA state chairman Rick Schliebe.

See Scoreboard for additional results.

Leo May looks on as athletic director Tim Oliver congratulates Sid Peretti.

Nancy Gerou
94 enter Montana tourney


Lujan was the third place finisher. Darel Furan of Great Falls was the Consolation champion as he defeated Curly Thornton of Helena in the finals.

In A Doubles, Nygaard teamed with Mike Hoonan of Missoula to win the championship. They won by forfeit from the Great Falls team of Blewett and Terry Wardinski.

Blewett-Wardinski advanced to the finals by defeating Missoula’s John Boyle-Terry Spear while Hoonan-Nygaard defeated Terry Reed and Al Allen of Great Falls. The third place match was not played, but the Helena-Butte team of Thornton-Dennis Dohoff defeated Bozeman’s Mike Copeland-Peter McGee for the Consolation championship.


Dave St. Pierre of Butte won B Consolation championship by defeating Mike Capshaw, Billings.

California doubles title goes to ... 

Wallace and Wetzel -- winning combination

Barry Wallace and Bob Wetzel won eight of their nine games in an eight team double elimination to take the California State Doubles title March 1-2 at Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, California.

Second place in the open division was the team of Bill Carroll and John Davidson. In the finals Wallace-Wetzel topped the number two team, 21-20, 21-11.

Third went to Rick Kossler and Rod Ross who were topped in the semifinals by Carroll-Davidson by scores of 21-10, 21-13.
Someone forgot to tell Luciw . . .

By Paul G. Traver
Director of H.P.E.R.

Big bird gets roasted in New York state singles

It was a Racquetballers Week-end in Niagara Falls for the 3rd New York State Open Singles Racquetball Tournament except for Leo Marsocci trying to find out what a “hairdo” is and very few gave Mike Luciw, of New Britain, Conn., any type of a chance to upset the defending New York State open singles racquetball champion, Charlie Garfinkel (known as Big Bird to some).

Mike had twisted his ankle in his first match and it was still sore Sunday. He had gone three tough games in the semis with Ivan Velen of Montreal, Quebec, 19-21, 21-16 and 21-13. Big Bird on the other hand had little to sweat about until the semis and then he was able to wear down Mike Romano, of Fitchburg, Mass., quite handily, 21-19, 21-12. But someone forgot to tell Luciw that he was not supposed to beat Big Bird in his neck of the woods.

Play began with each feeling the other out. Mike became very hot with his backhand and Charlie was not as “on” as he is capable of being. The first game was over 21-7 in favor of Mike. The crowd said wait ’til next game. They were right. Charlie counteracted and controlled the game for a 21-14 win.

Games were one apiece and it looked as though Charlie was ready to take his second N.Y.S. Open Championship. As the decisive game began, Mike began his psych tactics, but the score read 14-5 in Big Bird’s favor. Then it happened, Mike began to regain the hot hand as Charlie began to lose it. The crowd came on strong behind Mike and his shananigans as he out scored Charlie 16-0 for the Championship.

During the whole show Charlie kept his cool but it simply was not his day. (It was reported that the next weekend in Dallas Charlie kept saying 14 to 5? 14 to 5? in his sleep.)

When play began Friday afternoon the largest field was on hand with 45 entries from six different states and two Canadian Provinces. And match losers of Friday night entered into the consolation Tourney, which was anything but a cake-walk. The finals produced two hometown men shooting it out, Joe Tyree and Joe Tarantino. Tarantino prevailing, 21-20 and 21-8. One of the most exciting matches in the Open Tourney pitted Leo Marsocci against Mike Romano. Both used every trick in the book from sweat spots to pleading with his opponent, as the match wore on. For close to three hours, at one point in the match Mike complained to yours truly the unfortunate referee that he could not see the shot, Leo replied, “of course not I hit it too faassst.”

A young up newcomer by the name of John Moshides (just 17) gave Jerry Davis, who is no slouch, an early ride home, 31-25.

The Tournament Committee would like to extend a huge thank you to Voit Roll-out Racquetball Equipment who donated all the balls and a big quantity of racquetball equipment that was used as awards and door prizes at the banquet hosted by Howard Johnson’s Restaurant and Motor Lodge of Downtown Niagara Falls. The banquet went very well with everyone partaking of the free beer and receiving a Voit Roll-out Ball (which everyone was very pleased with) and falling asleep as Big Bird told his jokes again (just kidding, Charlie, but why was everyone reciting them with you?).

I would like to say thanks to the Committee, who did another great job, all players for their cooperation (their wives for letting them out for the week-end) and for the sponsor’s donations which all adds up to the best Tourney yet in Niagara Falls, but wait until February 1976 for the 4th Annual New York State Open Singles Racquetball Tournament. See You Then!

See Scoreboard for additional results.
"Sure it's a small door, but...

...an estimated 3-million people squeezed through last year to enjoy America's fastest growing sport!"

Join Us!

USE THE IRA MEMBERSHIP CARD AT THE FRONT OF THE MAGAZINE
SITE: Orange Coast College (Located between Los Angeles & San Diego)
DATES: Friday-Saturday & Sunday, June 20-21 & 22. (All players will play on Friday.)
FACILITIES: 13 Courts (Walls extend back to short service line)
ELIGIBILITY: Open to all racquetball players NATIONWIDE for the purpose of establishing the 3-Wall Champions for 1975.
ENTRY FEE: $15.00 for first event and $10.00 for second event entered. Players are limited to any 2 events. Final approval of division entry will be up to the Tournament Director.
DEADLINE: Entries will be accepted only until brackets are filled, with the final deadline being Friday, June 13, 1975.
RULES: Official 3-Wall Racquetball rules will apply to all matches.
OFFICIAL BALL: BLUE Vittert V-50
TO ENTER: Make check payable to: O.C.C. Racquetball Club
Mail check and entry blank to: Barry Wallace (Tourney Director)
ROOMS: Reservations can be established by contacting the Holiday Inn of Costa Mesa. It is located about 1 mile from the courts and 2 miles from the Orange County Airport.
For further information you can contact Barry Wallace at:
Orange Coast College: (714)556-5890 or at home: (714)556-0515

2nd ANNUAL NATIONAL 3-WALL RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP
Doubles-Partner's Name

DIVISIONS

Open Singles ( ) B Singles ( ) Seniors Singles ( ) Women's Singles (35+)
Open Doubles ( ) B Doubles ( ) C Singles ( )

I hereby certify; that I will abide by all tournament rules and regulations; and in consideration of acceptance of this entry, I intend to assume all risks and be legally bound hereby for myself, my heirs and assigns: to release and discharge any player, official, organization, including any officers, employees, or agents thereof, from demands for damages, claims or losses or injuries which may be incurred in connection with this tournament.

Signature
Date

Serving the community since 1947
200 players headed for 3-wall National championships

By Jim Carnett

Orange Coast College of Costa Mesa, California will host the second annual National Outdoor 3-Wall Racquetball Championships June 20-22, 1975. The tourney will be staged on the college's beautiful 13-court facility, and is sponsored by the Orange Coast College Racquetball Club.

Last year 107 players took part in the tourney that was viewed by more than 3,000 sunbaked fans. "Last year's championships were just great," said tourney director Barry Wallace. "The competition was excellent and the weather couldn't have been better. The temperatures were in the high 80's each day."

Wallace predicts that the '75 tourney will be even bigger. "We expect more than 200 competitors this year, and we've expanded our bleacher facilities to take care of more fans. We're looking forward to a fantastic three days."

Competition will be held in the following divisions: Open singles, open doubles, B singles, B doubles, seniors (35 and over) singles, C singles, and women's singles.

Entry fee is $15 for the first event and $10 for the second event entered. Players are limited to two events.

The college is located on the California coast, 39 miles southeast of the Los Angeles Civic Center and 89 miles northwest of San Diego.

In last year's tourney Charlie Brumfield nipped Steve Serot for the first National 3-Wall Championship open singles title, 21-20, 21-11. Later he teamed with Bud Muehliesen to best Barry Wallace and Bob Wetzel in the open doubles, 21-20, 21-16. Wallace and Wetzel are both physical education instructors on the Orange Coast College staff.

Myron Roderick and Muehliesen, two wily, old four-wall players, battled it out for the seniors title. Roderick took the honors with a 21-19, 15-21, 21-15 victory. Bette Weed copped the women's title by beating Joy Koppel, 9-21, 21-0, 21-14.

Wallace says Orange Coast College has the best outdoor racquetball facility in California. "We have 13 oversized handball-racquetball courts that measure 23 by 46 feet with 20-foot high walls. They are ideal for racquetball," Wallace said. "Six beautiful indoor courts will be completed in June, making this the best indoor-outdoor facility in the nation."

The college has completed locker room and shower facilities located adjacent to the racquetball courts.

For information about the tournament or hotel accommodations, call Wallace at (714) 556-5890 during the days of (714) 556-0515 in the evenings after 6 p.m. (Pacific Daylight Time). Entry deadline is June 13.
The experts call them . . .

"WORLD'S BEST"

By "The Gar"

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

Some categories we would not possibly include, were suggested by the following:

—1. Dr. Bud Muehleisen wanted us to rank all left handed playing dentists.
—2. Ken Porco, 5-9 and 210 lbs., wanted us to rank all Italians under 5-10 and weighing at least 200 lbs.
—3. Myron Roderick wanted us to rank all IRA executive Directors; past and present. We decided to "Chuck" his request, and "Leve" it for a later date.

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

Also notice carefully the rankings of the top five players today; with the top ten of all time.

Final rankings were taken right from the players own balloting. We are not releasing the experts names, as they do value their lives, and some have families. In fact, one expert changed his address, shaved his beard, and is working as a porter at Ken Porco's Louisville Athletic Club.

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

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5 Top Men Players
1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Steve Serot
3. Steve Keeley
4. Steve Strandemo
5. Bill Schmidike

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

Honorable Mention
Serot, Strandemo, and Roderick

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

5 Smartest Players
1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Dr. Bud Muehleisen
3. Steve Serot
4. Bill Dunn
5. Steve Keeley

Honorable Mention
Schmidike and Garfinkel

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

Honorable Mention
Bill Schmidike and Steve Keeley

5 Best Return of Serves
1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Steve Serot
3. Steve Strandemo
4. Steve Keeley
5. Bill Dunn

Honorable Mention
Craig McCoy

5 Players with Best Ceiling Games
1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Steve Serot
3. Charlie Brumfield
4. Steve Strandemo
5. Mike Zeitman

Honorable Mention
Craig McCoy

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

Honorable Mention
Craig McCoy

Roderick, Keeley, Thurman, and Wagner

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

Honorable Mention
Bumfield, McCoy, and Bledsoe

5 Players with Most Potential
1. Craig McCoy
2. Davey Bledsoe
3. Marty Hagen
4. Richie Wagner
5. Eric Campbell

5 Best Sportsmen on the Court
1. Steve Keeley
2. Bill Schmidike
3. Charlie Garfinkel
4. Craig McCoy
5. Kenny Wong

Honorable Mention
Austin, Dunn, and Muehleisen

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

Honorable Mention
Charlson, Thurman, Strandemo

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

Honorable Mention
Hilecher, Porco, and Garfinkel

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

5 CHANGES
THAT YOU WOULD LIKE
TO SEE IN RACQUETBALL
1. Enforcement of rules and stiffer penalties. 2. One serve only. 3. One racquetball organization (or a merger). 4. A standard and a good ball. 5. Well trained referees.

Also: Fifteen point games. Scoring whether you are serving or not. No hinder if ball hits opponent, and it would not have reached the front wall. More glass back walls. More national exposure. Stronger control on entry deadline. More communication between states, regional, board of directors and executive director.

RACQUETBALL
By Charlie Garfinkel

Having played in four national championships, every IRA pro tournament, three National Invitationsals, and many other tournaments throughout the country, I have been fortunate enough to have both seen, and played against each of the top all-time players.

I feel I am therefore well qualified to rank the all time top ten. My only regret is the fact, that we can’t have a separate ranking for all players 6-6 and over.

BRUMFIELD

Number One: Charlie Brumfield. Age 26, 5-11½, 183 lbs. Occupation: Lawyer.

Charlie, “Mr. Modesty” himself, calls himself “The People’s Champion”. Charlie’s record speaks for itself. Two time National Champion, three times National Invitational Champion, and five times National Invitational Doubles Champion, Charlie’s claim to number one is unchallenged. Pro racquetballer’s all time money winner, may leave a record of National titles that will never be equalled.

He is without doubt the most intelligent player to have played the game of racquetball. His court coverage, and shooting style, make him doubly tough to beat. For a period of fourteen months in the 1972-73 season Charlie was practically unbeatable.

Charlie himself says, “My style of play is an errorless defense. When I’m playing well, I’m just super. When I lift my game slightly; I become merely invincible.” Not too many players will disagree.

Psyching out his opponents, is another of Charlie’s strong points. Some of Charlie’s more memorable remarks follow:

*In the 1971 National Invitational Finals against Dr. Bud Muehleisen, Charlie was ahead 10-0. Dr. Bud finally scored a point. “That’s the Dr. Bud we all know and love,” Charlie said.*

*In the 1973 Invitational final against Steve Serot, Charlie rolled out a ball from behind his back and said, “You don’t see shots like that in the small towns.”*

*In the same match, Serot hit what seemed like a flat rollout. Brumfield, somehow dove, and reekilled it. He whirled around, screamed, and pointed at Serot, “Don’t you ever try that shot again.”*

A key to how well Charlie does in a tournament, is to watch how low he bends when he is shooting. When he is set, and in position, the point is automatic for him.

Charlie’s only weakness seems to be himself. That is, he comes up with mysterious ailments at different times. Unfortunately for the rest of the players, they come far and in between.

SCHMIDTKE

Number Two: Bill Schmidtke. Age 33, 6-1, 182 lbs. Occupation: Court Club Manager.

Although Bill’s “Success has never gone to his clothes,” he will probably be remembered as the games greatest clutch player.

Schmidtke, who has the game’s best forehand, is the only player besides Brumfield to hold two National Singles Championships.

Why is he known as a great clutch player? In 1971, he was playing Craig Finger in the ARA National Finals. Bill proceeded to win the title; even though he trailed 14-3 in the third game. In fact, Finger never won another point.

Bill topped this last year, by defeating Dave Charlson, Steve Strander, Charlie Brumfield, and Steve Serot; all in three games.

It was the greatest “guts and desire” performance that this reporter has ever seen. Naturally, Bill was also shooting beautifully.

His win showed everyone that they were watching one of the all time greats.

As Schmidtke himself said, “That was without doubt; my greatest win. There are more fine players than ever before.”

I’ve kidded Bill a lot, but he is a true gentleman, and one of the nicest guys to have ever played the game.

MUEHLEISEN

Number Three: Dr. Bud Muehleisen. Age 43, 6-0, 174 lbs. Occupation: Dentist.

When you talk about stylish players, and great doubles players, Dr. Bud has to be put at the top of the list.

Many people don’t realize Dr. Bud won his only National Singles Championship at the age of 37. This is incredible, when you think of the shape you have to be in to do this; both physically and mentally.

Without question, racquetball’s greatest doubles player, Dr. Bud may have ranked even higher in singles, if the game had surfaced five to ten years earlier.

The holder of more National titles (24) in both racquetball and paddleball, Dr. Bud is known for forcing his opponent to play his style of game. He has complete mastery of all strokes; along with a soft touch and finesse. He tries to control the center court at all times, and is a model for all younger players to follow.

A member of Racquetball’s Hall of Fame, Dr. Bud is now owner of Court Craft Industries, a firm specializing in consulting, and specialization of construction of racquetball facilities.

Dr. Bud, who was also a ranking badminton and tennis player, has not neglected his dental practice. He still subscribes to at least three dental magazines.

Please turn the page
SEROT

Number Four: Steve Serot. Age 19, 6-2, 180 lbs. Occupation: College student at San Diego State.

Would you believe that a baseball injury to Steve's right arm in 1967 was the key to his rise as an all time great?

After pitching two no hitter, and hitting three home runs in two days, he was unable to move his right arm. He tore muscles in his right shoulder, and started to play racquetball left-handed. (He had played right-handed for three years.) He never switched back.

As Steve himself says, "I can only write, and throw a ball fifteen feet with my left hand." What he can do with a racquet in his left hand, is another story.

Without a doubt, the possessor of the game's best backhand, and the hardest hitter in the history of racquetball (Apologies to George Rudysz) Serot has reached the semifinals in over one hundred consecutive tournaments since 1971.

This is an incredible record, and Steve had only lost to Brumfield, Keeley, Strandemo, and Schmidtke, during this period.

Recently, Steve defeated Charlie Brumfield for the first time in seventeen matches, and feels this could be the key to his rise up the ladder to Number One.

Many people feel Serot may eventually inherit Brumfield's all time best rating; but we will just have to sit back and see. All in all, he is not doing badly for a nineteen year old.

KEELEY


Steve, who resembles Harpo Marx, made the switch to racquetball in 1971 from paddleball. He is one of the all time greats in that sport too; having won two National Singles Titles.

Keeley, who started out as an all out shooter from anywhere on the court, has molded his game to include a tremendous ceiling game; combined with great court coverage.

Keeley's main problem has always seemed to be one of concentration. He feels that he needs a diversion from the game, and will often play squash or handball for a change of pace.

He has defeated every top player in the game, and could also well rise in the rankings of the all time top ten; before he is done playing.

Steve reached the finals in 1973, and the semis last year. He is also the present Canadian Singles Champion.

Very well mannered and well liked off and on the court, Steve is also well known for his "Keeleyisms." For instance he's come up with such terms as the "donkey kick", the "tweak ball", and "freak ball".

Steve is a real treat to watch during a tournament. He doesn't argue or intimidate the referee, and his all around skills are the envy of every player.

STRAINDEMO

Number Six: Steve Strandemo. Age 25, 5-9, 155 lbs. Occupation: Ektelon Sales Manager.

If we were to rank the best conditioned, hardest working, and most dedicated player in the game, Steve would rank Number One in all three categories.

He has made the most rapid progress of any player today. Perhaps, no player in racquetball history has reached such a high level in such a short time.

Relatively unheard of two summers ago, Steve seemingly came out of no-where, to defeat Bill Schmidtke and Steve Serot, to win the Canadian National Singles.

In his very first pro tourney, he defeated Brumfield. What more could the man do?

Steve, who quit the security of a teaching job, to try his hand at professional racquetball, has changed his game dramatically from two years ago. Knowing that he has to shoot to win, Steve no longer hits ceiling ball after ceiling ball. He has a well rounded game that makes him hard to beat. This, along with his tremendous conditioning and determination, makes Steve an all time great.

Already, in a virtual tie with Serot and Keeley for the number two position behind Brumfield among today's players, Strandemo could well win all the marbles in St. Louis this year.

FINGER

Number Seven: Craig Finger. Age 30, 5-8, 160 lbs. Profession: College Professor at University of Michigan.

Craig, a former National Champion 1970, almost won again in 1971. As stated earlier, he was leading Bill Schmidtke 14-3 in the third game. He never won another point.

Craig lost this match, but he didn't lose many others. Known for holding his index finger almost straight up the side of the racquet, Craig will be remembered as one of the all time great percentage and clutch players.

Content to rally until he had an opportunity to shoot Craig played the shot as "the book" called for.

As Charlie Brumfield once said, "When the score reaches 18-18, the toughest man to beat in the history of racquetball would be Craig Finger." I concur.

Craig, who has not played in the Nationals since 1971, would surely rank higher if he had continued play-
During that year, he reached the finals of both the Canadian and United States Nationals. In both, he lost to Charlie Brumfield.

Ron, who is known for his deep tan even in winter, moves very effortlessly and gracefully on the court. Ron can "shoot the eyes" out of the ball when he is hot. He is also a fine gentleman off and on the court.

Ron, who was a former basketball great, played varsity basketball and tennis, at the University of Louisville.

Ron plays more ceiling now than he has, but still must be classified as one of the game's all-time great shooters.

ZEITMAN

Number Ten: Mike Zeitman. Age 26, 6-1, 175 lbs. Occupation: Clothing Sales Representative.

Mike is co-ranked at Number Ten with Ken Porco. Mike, who is known as "super Jew", is the type of player who can give a coach early ulcers. He has won two National Doubles Championships; defeated Steve Keeley, Bill Schmidtle, Jerry Hillcher, and other top players. He has also lost to people such as John Hennen, Trey Sayes, and Charlie Drake.

When Mike is on, he is tremendous. He can shoot and retrieve with anyone. He is also as strong physically as any other player.

In fact, a horrible back injury suffered in a car accident three years ago, almost cut short Mike's career. Within four months, he was back playing, and almost defeated National Champion Charlie Brumfield. This shows you the desire Mike has.

Why then, is he only ranked at Number Ten? Unfortunately, Mike has never put it all together. His potential is unlimited, but he has always suffered from consistency. Can he move up the ladder to a higher rating? Only time will tell.

PORCO

Number Ten: Ken Porco. Age 36, 5-9, 210 lbs. Occupation: Louisville Athletic Club Manager.

Kenny, who is known as "Porky", is built like a pro fullback. He is very strong physically, and a hard competitor.

A former National Doubles Champion with Mike Zeitman, Kenny was at one time ranked as high as Number Three in the United States. In 1970, he played one of the most memorable matches in racquetball history. He lost to eventual champion Craig Finger by the scores of 21-20, 21-20. In a carbon copy a year later, he lost, 21-19, 21-16. Kenny still feels he should have won both matches.

A former twelve letterman in three varsity sports at U. of Louisville, Kenny is best known for his great sidewall shots, and his unorthodox backhand. This, combined with his great court coverage, has helped him make the All Time Top Ten.

Presently, Commissioner of the IRA, Kenny has helped immensely in racquetball's advancement.

So, there you have it. I know there may be some differences of opinion, but it should make for a lively discussion.

I have to leave now. Luther Bernstein wants to know when we're going to rank the top 43?
"Rollout"

By Robert H. Black, Jr.

To help popularize the sport of racquetball by exposing it to more people, AMF Voit recently commissioned a new, full-color sound film named "Rollout." Aimed at making more men and women interested in playing the game, it has enough superstar action to hold anyone's interest. The cast consists of four top touring pros—Charlie Brumfield, Steve Keeley, Steve Serot and Steve Strandemo.

These four were turned loose on the courts and were captured in some great action during a three-day filming session. The result is exciting, non-commercial drama that should go a long way towards interesting people in playing racquetball.

Seeing the pros at their indoor game is enough of a challenge to interest any athlete in racquetball and the outdoor court scenes in the film will convince sun loving athletes that all they need in order to play the game is an outdoor court, a racquet, and a ball.

The non-commercial nature of "Rollout" provides some unsung heroes who deserve recognition from racquetball fans. Along with Voit, the cooperation of Brumstar Corporation, Ektelon and Leach Industries in making the film is indeed gratifying.

The overall concept was created by the Cochran Chase & Company advertising agency of Newport Beach, California. The creative team of Gary Cunningham and Ken Sakoda set out to make this film different from the normal sports film, where "we all bid fond farewell to the scenic slopes." Instead of a lot of glamourous footage, "Rollout" has a story line, with a Mission Impossible theme. Those who see it agree that it captures the sounds, strategies, skills and emotions experienced on the court.

Locations included three super Southern California settings—Long Beach Athletic Club, Orange Coast College, and Del Webb's Newporter Inn. It was produced by The Moving Pitches Company and directed by Harvey Stewart, an avid racquetball player. (Stewart has produced and directed commercials for Honda, U.S. Forest Association and First Federal Savings, California.)

The film begins with a black screen and court sounds, familiar to the racquetballer, but a real mystery to the uninitiated. It then cuts to an office where a young executive (yes, that is Charlie Brumfield) receives a confidential phone call and signs off by saying "Don't worry, I'll be there." Now the four stars go into action, leaving their businesses and heading off to an important yet undisclosed rendezvous. The viewer still has no idea where they're headed or what they're about to do.

Suddenly, as the ball smacks into the center of the screen at about a hundred miles per hour, it's obviously racquetball. But the viewer is not on the court or over it; he is getting an eye-level look at the game. The action is filmed from a vantage point never before, by a camera behind the front wall. Viewers are able to catch expressions and the players they've never had time to observe when following the ball in a game.

Next comes a ballet-like sequence combining slow motion photography and music. Technique is very easy to observe at this point. Steve Strandemo was particularly interested in analyzing his performance as he viewed each day's slow-motion footage. As the tempo picks up once again, the action builds to a climax and the game is won.

Following the game and a brief outdoor sequence, the four sit down to lunch at the Newporter. The camaraderie of the players comes out loud and clear as they relive the game and lightly poke fun at each other's techniques. As the film draws to a close, Steve Serot is seen in a series of flash backs. These scenes reinforce the fact that the strategy of racquetball demands as much of the mind as it does of the body.

If the action looks real, that's because it was. The four pros were playing an actual game. In most Hollywood productions, the good guys in the white shirts naturally win. But in fact, the blue team of Charlie Brumfield and Steve Strandemo takes the white team of Steve Keeley and Steve Serot by the score of 21 to 19.

The premier showing of "Rollout" was at the posh Century West Club in Los Angeles, attended by such dignitaries as Carl Reiner, who personally congratulated Harvey Stewart on the film. In late January, the movie was shown to sporting goods dealers, mass merchandisers, and equipment manufacturers at the National Sporting Goods Show in the Houston Astrodome. A similar group was treated to a showing in Montreal at the Canadian Sporting Goods Show and the movie is now circulating among sporting goods dealers. "Rollout" has been shown at I.R.A. regional tournaments in California, Washington, Minnesota, Indiana, Oklahoma, New York, Virginia, and Tennessee.

Since its introduction in January, the "Rollout" film has already captured the CINE Golden Eagle film award presented by the Council on International Nontheatrical Events. The CINE award is recognized as a high honor by the film industry here and abroad. With the award to its credit, "Rollout" can now be officially entered in more than 100 international film festivals.

Individual dealers plan to show the film to prospective players, or any group that expresses an interest. Also, AMF Voit is planning to use it on the airlines for in-flight showings.

The film is available on a rental or purchase basis by contacting Richard G. Smith, AMF Voit, Inc., 3801 South Harbor Boulevard, Santa Ana, California 92704.
A Report to Members in an earlier issue of Racquetball Magazine indicated the two best methods of eye protection we'd been able to find were the "Brow-Rest" glasses and the "Lunaire" wrap-around.

In that article, we pointed out that we've concluded there is no method of eye protection which doesn't have certain disadvantages, whether it be in loss of vision, inconvenience or discomfort. But, that the two that we suggested seemed to offer the best protection along with the least discomfort, and loss of vision.

Since then, we've found one that's similar to the "Lunaire" wrap-around and has some advantages over the "Lunaire".

To remind you, the "Lunaire" is a one-piece, plastic (polycarbonate) wrap-around glasses that have almost no distortion and no loss of peripheral vision. They're almost unbreakable, and no one who has worn them (that we know of) has ever complained about them being uncomfortable.

The "Lunaire" does have a number of disadvantages, though: 1. They tend to fog up; 2. They have a tendency to have sweat from your forehead and brow splash onto them (we've found that wearing a headband helps—perhaps a full head of hair would help even more); 3. Being one piece, they're somewhat difficult to store since they don't fold up—they take up a lot of room and on top of that, tend to scratch, which then impairs vision.

Since the earlier report we've come across some which are similar to the "Lunaire", but different; and the differences, we think, give them an edge over the "Lunaire".

Made by Bachmann's they're called Cyclone glasses. They have the same shape as the "Lunaire" but protrude slightly further from your forehead, resulting in less sweat splash on them. The ear-pieces fold, which makes them easier to carry, put away and less susceptible to scratches. They come in their own cloth case, which makes them more convenient to carry. In the molding of the glasses, there are some air spaces built-in (which result in ventilation), so fogging is not as much of a problem as with the "Lunaire".

They're made of Lexan plastic, are durable, comfortable, have good vision frontward and peripheral, and come with their own headstrap.

Shortly, they should be available thru IRA Headquarters. Clubs wishing to purchase a supply can do so—or write directly to Bachmann Brothers, Inc., Attn: Dick Redles, 1400 E. Erie Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19124. Ask for the "Model #912 with lip".

Some "tennis elbow" problems yield to old pair of socks

"Tennis elbow," one of the knotty injury problems of the racquet enthusiast, has been treated in many different ways. Like shin splints, it is difficult to define. The athlete plagued with this problem has observed, and possibly experienced, numerous, approaches to treatment. One procedure may be effective for one while other forms of treatment are successful for others. But what about the racquet "buff" who has run the gamut of traditional treatment—rest, stretching, exercise, balms, whirlpool, ultrasound—with no success?

The following procedure has proved to be successful in such knotty cases: Take two wool sweat socks and cut off the toes. Slide the two socks together into a tube and sew them together to form one unit. The tube then can be pulled up on the arm, across the elbow, with the elbow fitting into the "heal." A ring of tape, not too tight, can be placed around the sock above the elbow to keep it from slipping down. When this single wrap is worn during play it keeps the elbow joint warm and eliminates the painful symptoms of tennis elbow.

This simple procedure has been used by a number of squash and tennis players who have tried all of the other treatment procedures without success. They find that they are able to participate "pain-free." Some have even applied a balm on the arm beneath the sock to enhance the procedure, while others have found that just the sock was sufficient. Apparently the conservation of heat in the area is the source of relief.
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RACQUETBALL
South regions

OPEN SINGLES

Third: Smith (by default).

OPEN DOUBLES


OPEN DOUBLES


Please turn the page.
Continued from preceding page


Finals: McKie def. Wright, 21-14, 21-12, 21-16.


Consolation: Benen def. Glander.

SENIOR SINGLES


Western regional

OPEN SINGLES


SENIOR SINGLES


B DOUBLES


Western regional

OPEN SINGLES


SENIOR SINGLES


Finals: Peterson def. Jackson, 21-15, 21-7; Skogstad took third place (on default due to injury) over Skogstad.

MASTER'S SINGLES

Quarterfinals: Erickson, bye; Luckman def. Craft; Whitehill, bye; Goble def. Grant.


First round: Jeff Bowman, Bill James, Jim Knaue, Jim Santino, Mark Hudf, Brian Parrott, Gordon Kelly, Tom Dute, Ron Johnson, Rob Abrams, Bill Gottlieb and Mike Smart advanced on byes; and: John Smoker def. Scott Clayton; Dave Spaulding def. Tom Lyleur Kim Draf def.
JUNIORS—ROUND ROBIN
Quarterfinals: Steve Sulli def. Bruce Klopfstein, 21-1, 21-4; and Rick Blair, 21-1, 21-2; and Jim Billingsley, 21-2, 21-4.
Seminifals: Bruce Klopfstein def. Rick Blair (forfeit); Blair def. Billingsley, 21-9, 21-9; Billingsley def. Klopfstein, 21-8, 21-15.
Finals: Sulli def. 3-0; Klopfstein, 1-2; Blair def. 1-2; Billingsley, 1-2.

WOMEN'S OPEN
Quarterfinals: Carow def. Montecino, 21-10, 21-8; Stoffregen def. Foltz, 21-9, 21-15; McCarthy def. Ackerman, 21-15, 21-3; Davis def. Saccomano, 21-7, 21-10.
Seminifals: Carow def. Stoffregen, 12-21, 21-7, 21-8; McCarthy def. Davis, 17-21, 21-14, 21-11.

N.W. regional

OPEN SINGLES

SENIORS
Quarterfinals: Davis def. Hinds, Oyhuisner; McClure def. Neff; Webb def. Solomon.
Finals: Davis def. Webb, 21-10, 8-21, 21-8.

MASTERS
First round: Earl Dixon, bye; Dick Daugherty def. Norton Gutowitz; Pierre Miller, bye; Bill Blackburn def. Tim Rusk; Bob Trayor, bye; Ailen Brown def. Bill Lindner; Philip Dzuik, bye; Don Von Fossen def. Del Daines.
Seminifals: Dixon def. Miller, 21-17, 21-4; Dzuik def. Trayor, 21-9, 13-21, 21-14.
Finals: Dixon def. Dzuik, 21-6, 21-3.

GOLDEN MASTER'S—ROUND ROBIN
Finals: Kenneth def. Gothard, 40; Spaulding, 31; Gothard, 2-2; Reed, 1-3; Carter, 0-4.


California doubles

OPEN DIVISION—ROUND ROBIN

WOMEN'S DIVISION—ROUND ROBIN
Finals: Russavage-Boyer and Gick-Francovich (1st and second), Third: Bowen-Chasak.

B DIVISION

COLORADO STATE

OPEN SINGLES

Please turn the page
The SCOREBOARD

Iowa YMCA singles

SINGLES


Semifinals: Chase def. Detrich; Bishop def. Hunter.


Illinois state

MEN'S OPEN


MEN'S SENIORS


Third: Williamson.

MEN'S B


WOMEN'S B


WOMEN'S OPEN


Finals: Carow def. Sauer, 21-13, 15-21 (injury forfeit); Third: Franks.

MEN'S JUNIOR


MEN'S DOUBLES


Ontario closed

SINGLES


MEN'S DOUBLES

Queen Mary results

OPEN SINGLES

Quarterfinals: Brumfield def. Portone, 21-12, 21-7; McCoy def. Dunn, 21-17, 21-15; Jones def. Gettman, 21-3, 21-17; Keeley def. Feering, 21-12, 21-14.


OPEN DOUBLES
First round: McCoy-Starkman, bye; Davidson-Gettman, def. Jack Berman-Phil Ivady, 21-14, 21-19; Jones-Bob McCAllister def. Fearing-Jim Pool, 21-19, 21-21, 21-6; Brumfield-Dunn, bye.


WOMEN'S OPEN SINGLES
First round: Jan Campbell, bye; Donna Naguchi def. Lisa Gean, 21-6, default; Jan DeWolf def. Kathy Gardner, 21-17, 21-21, 21-20; Judy Clemens, bye; Linda Siau, bye; Pat Bernaeth def. Shirley Topley, 21-20, 18-21, 21-20; Kathy Siatto def. Bette Anderson, 21-7, 21-4; Bette Wee, bye.


WOMEN'S OPEN DOUBLES


NOVICE WOMEN'S SINGLES


SUPER B SINGLES
First round: McComas, bye; Rick Bryson def. Tod Boykin, 21-3, 21-5; Ron Botchen def. Gordon Drysdale, default; Starksman, bye; Dave Brubaker, bye; Wayne Emerick def. Mike Burgener, 21-11, 21-18; Rick Desarcho, bye; Portune, bye.


SUPER B DOUBLES


B SINGLES


Semifinals: Moore def. Shelby, 21-14, 10-21, 21-20; Lusk def. Burgener, 21-10, 21-12.


B DOUBLES


Continued from preceding page

**C DOUBLES**

Second round: Brand-Lagerborg, def. Coats- Treshe, 21-10, 21-12; Rolly Pulsati-Phil Travers, def. Jack Webbner-Ron Holt, 21-14, 21-18; Craven-Eldin, def. Pat Bloom-Dan Willingham, 21-10, 21-12; Don Lindsay-Foster Anderson, def. Rolly Pulsati-Phil Travers, 21-10, 21-12; Mike Mooney-Danny Heg, def. Mike Ainband-Dennis Murder, 21-10, 21-12; Don Delaney-Steve Arrias, def. Lanny-Froleksen, 21-10, 21-12; Lee-Hoffman, def. Jerry Doxel-Kane, 21-10, 21-12; Bell-Fennis, def. Lanny-Froleksen, 21-10, 21-12; Mike Ainband-Dennis Murder, def. Don Delaney-Steve Arrias, 21-10, 21-12.

Quarterfinals: Craven-Eldin, def. Brand-Lagerborg, 21-10, 21-12; Rolly Pulsati-Phil Travers, def. Mike Mooney-Danny Heg, 21-10, 21-12; Mike Ainband-Dennis Murder, def. Don Delaney-Steve Arrias, 21-10, 21-12; Lanny-Froleksen, def. Lee-Hoffman, 21-10, 21-12; Jerry Doxel-Kane, def. Bell-Fennis, 21-10, 21-12; Mike Ainband-Dennis Murder, def. Don Delaney-Steve Arrias, 21-10, 21-12; Lee-Hoffman, def. Jerry Doxel-Kane, 21-10, 21-12; Bell-Fennis, def. Lanny-Froleksen, 21-10, 21-12; Mike Ainband-Dennis Murder, def. Don Delaney-Steve Arrias, 21-10, 21-12.

Semifinals: Craven-Eldin, def. Rolly Pulsati-Phil Travers, 21-10, 21-12; Mike Ainband-Dennis Murder, def. Mike Mooney-Danny Heg, 21-10, 21-12; Lanny-Froleksen, def. Jerry Doxel-Kane, 21-10, 21-12; Lee-Hoffman, def. Mike Ainband-Dennis Murder, 21-10, 21-12; Jerry Doxel-Kane, def. Bell-Fennis, 21-10, 21-12; Mike Ainband-Dennis Murder, def. Don Delaney-Steve Arrias, 21-10, 21-12; Lee-Hoffman, def. Jerry Doxel-Kane, 21-10, 21-12; Bell-Fennis, def. Lanny-Froleksen, 21-10, 21-12; Mike Ainband-Dennis Murder, def. Don Delaney-Steve Arrias, 21-10, 21-12.

**New York state**

**OPEN SINGLES**


**Pennsylvania**

**MEN’S "A" SINGLES**


**MEN’S "B" SINGLES**


**Consolation Results**
Quarterfinals: King def. Santillo, 21-7; Tarantino def. Brodie, 21-9, 21-12; Tyree def. Khan, 21-19, 21-12; Davis def. McLaughlin, 21-17.


**Junior Boys**
First round: Darryl Swend, def. Beaver Wildman, 21-8, 21-1; Mark Reyes, def. Lirk Meyers, 21-8; Brian Wickham, def. Eric Smith, 21-0, 21-1; Mark Reyes, def. Lirk Meyers, 21-8.

Second round: Darryl Swend, def. Beaver Wildman, 21-10, 21-10; Reyes def. Meyers, 21-12, 21-17.

Finales: Reyes def. Wickham, 21-16, 21-17.
Pernod to co-sponsor
Summer Festival tournament
... with Manhattan Athletic Club

They like being associated with distinctive new sport, so

By Earle E. Castle

It's been hardly a year since the Manhattan Athletic Club opened its six sparkling new courts in Manhattan Beach, the sunny pleasure village that separates the teeming Los Angeles metropolitan complex from the Pacific Ocean; but already the energetic club is sponsoring its third topflight racquetball tournament in what promises to be a highly successful biannual series.

With racquetball growing in quantum leaps and bounds in the densely-populated, sports-oriented Southern California area, and with Manhattan's reputation for conducting quality events, the coming June championships could well provide the single largest entry in racquetball history.

But even more significant, Manhattan's Summer Festival Tournament marks the emergence of an important commercial sponsor—Pernod, the popular French aperitif. A trend like this could eventually revolutionize the competitive racquetball scene, where income strictly from ticket sales has such limited potential. A major corporation promoting a Virginia Slims style pro tour for racquetball would be an exciting prospect to say the least.

So far Pernod is merely dipping a big toe in the local waters, but as Glenn Thompson, promotional manager for the product, says, "We have a distinctive French product that is catching on rapidly in this country and we feel it helps our image to be identified with a distinctive new sport that is also gaining rapid acceptance. After all, our business is to provide people with pleasure and enjoyment, so we're grateful to have the opportunity to be associated with this expanding recreational activity."

As a result of this sponsorship, Manhattan will be able to offer money in the open class.

In keeping with the prestige of its product, Pernod insisted that the trophies have a full measure of style and class. In addition to Manhattan's customary super hospitality room, Pernod will be hosting several hospitality tables throughout the tournament. Is this any way to run a racquetball tournament? Does Brumfield ever roll it out?

In thanking Pernod for its cooperation Fred Stellabotte, Manhattan's president, took the occasion to announce that Manhattan will soon be constructing three new courts including an all-glass spectator area. Fred, whose hairdo even puts Keeley's to shame, stated, "We're completely dedicated to the future of racquetball. We think tournaments are good for the development of the sport and we intend to have a facility that is second to none—one where you can hold a national championship and really do it justice."

Tournament dates are June 26-27-28-29, 1975. For entry blanks, write to Manhattan Beach Athletic Club, 3421 Sepulveda Boulevard, Manhattan Beach, California 90266.

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Ron Starkman and Craig McCoy (right) receive clock trophies from club owner Ben Agajanian as Bill Dunn and Brumfield look on.

2nd Annual Queen Mary

By Robert Hopper

If anything was missing at Ben Agajanian's Long Beach Athletic Club, site of the second annual Queen Mary Tournament, it probably wasn't worth having anyway.

Just under 300 players—including some prominent names—competed in the four-day, 14-event extravaganza. A free-to-the-public, open-door policy lured a lot of people to whom racquetball had never been exposed.

As an added extra, a 45-minute belly dancing exhibition was held prior to the finals. Complete with Greek band, it featured Zainah, one of the world's best entertainers. Not only did the Long Beach resident, whose off-stage name is Stephanie Corodimas, mesmerize an attentive audience with her show on the glass court, she played in the tournament.

In the opening round of novice activity, Stephanie was paired with Pat McCormick, winner of four Olympic medals in diving during the 1950s. Using a variety of shots, she stunned Ms. McCormick, 21-14, 21-17. A match later the Greeecian bombshell was eliminated by Sharron Reiner, 21-5, 21-5.

Despite having shows to put on at the Hollywood night club where she works, Stephanie refused to leave until after the Charlie Brumfield vs. Steve Keeley open singles slugfest.

"Only reason I got involved with racquetball was because of Brumfield," she confessed. "I saw his picture in a magazine and I decided I just had to meet him. The best way seemed to be through the sport, so I began playing it. I adore the game, and I find it a great way to keep my weight down."

Zainah, still clad in costume, finally met her idol during pre-match picture taking ceremonies. She then cheered Brumfield to his 21-20, 21-14 triumph over Keeley.

Keeley found his path to the finals relatively easy. With Steve Strandemo in Chicago and unable to make connections to arrive for his initial match, the only barriers for the curly-haired defending champion were John David-

son and Bill Fearing. Davidson fell by identical 21-7 margins, and Fearing fared only slightly better, 21-12, 21-14.

Brumfield, meanwhile, had a more difficult time dispatching Craig McCoy in the semifinals, 21-17, 21-15. The pesky McCoy traded shots evenly in the beginning, but his court coverage left something to be desired. Brumfield took full advantage of the weakness, and kept pecking away with unhurried patience.

BRRRUM-BRRRUMMM

It appeared Keeley had solved the fast pace established from the start by calm determination, Brumfield sprayed a series of cross-court corner kills, and went on to gain the decision.

Apprently Keeley was out of gas in that second contest, and Brumfield toyed with him en route to the crown, mixing shots with a master's skill.

Charlie and Bill Dunn teamed up for the doubles, but were outclassed by McCoy and Ron Starkman in the finals, 21-15, 21-12. As is usually the case when Brumfield and Starkman share the court, jostling and verbal battles between the two were as exciting as actual play.

CAMPBELL'S CUP OF TEA

Jan Campbell whizzed past Bette Weed in the women's open championship clash, 21-4, 15-21, 21-1. After being soundly thrashed in the first game, Ms. Weed altered tactics. Her ceiling shots geared to Jan's backhand paid off as shot after shot faded and died in the rear corners.

Returning to the court after the break, Campbell took instant command. She ticked off 10 quick points before relinquishing serve. After yielding Bette's lone point on a mental error, she broke service and rocketed shots at will past her puzzled rival.

Unheralded Gary Luck assumed the role of giant killer in B Singles. After making the semifinals, he found himself matched against No. 2 seeded Mike Burgener. Since his opponent had forfeited due to an injury, Burgener loomed small. The two were conducted, so he was refreshed and rarin' at game time.

Ignoring the seeming advantage enjoyed by Burgener, Luck began a barrage, set up by a crafty ceiling game, that did not subside until he'd humbled his foe, 21-10, 21-12.

He then challenged top-seeded Jim Moore, and promptly upset him, 21-8, 21-14. Moore found himself extended three sets in the quarters and again in semifinals, and the added efforts took their toll. He muffed several shots in the title series that would ordinarily have been routine to handle.

Please turn the page
The above picture is dedicated to all those players who have shared the feelings expressed by Steve McComas.

At the right Jan Campbell brings one out of the corner against Donna Noguchi during the Queen Mary tournament.

Queen Mary—Continued from page 57

The 64-bracket C Singles featured a number of action-packed duels. At the end it was Jody Lilly prevailing over Will Jordan, 21-20, 21-13.

One of the more impressive contestants, however, was Bob Wetzel, a first time ever indoor player. Utilizing an uncanny instinct to get positioned properly in advance of his opponent's stroke, he waded into quarterfinals before being nipped by Larry Hoffman, 21-16, 21-20.

In B Doubles, Wetzel linked with Charlie Brown, a young college student whose icy stare and sinister smile was as unnerving as were his cannonish shots. They progressed to the semis before dropping 21-15, 21-17 verdicts to eventual champions Phil Ivaldy and Dr. Jack Berman.

Berman, a physician, spent as much time tending Ivaldy as he does patients. The bearded Ivaldy, who blurs the ball's flight with a vicious all-wrist swat, was target for more than one haywire racquet. He caught one between the eyes, and sported a nasty calf welt from being ripped on another occasion.
SDRA seeking San Diego county racquetball players for directory

By Nancy Steinbacher

The San Diego Racquetball Association (SDRA) celebrated its first anniversary March 13 with the continued pledge of promoting and developing racquetball participation, and the announcement of a San Diego player directory.

Heading the SDRA is John Steinbacher, a former tournament squash-racquets player from Pasadena, who has now taken to racquetball . . . and has moved to Carlsbad.

The association invites membership of all San Diego area racquetball players, and especially would like to be contacted by all county or area players who should be included in the directory. Copies of the book will be sold for the cost of printing.

Goals of the year-old association are specifically to promote all aspects of the sport, and to initiate, sponsor and govern various activities such as league play and tournaments.

The first venture of the SDRA was to form a “B” league. The Mel-Gorhams-Pacific Beach team won the Spring League (April-June 1974) and the Fall League (October-December 1974) was won by the Muehleisen team of El Cajon. The current league season began January 24, and team membership has been increased from five to seven players.

Plans are now underway for a class “C” and a women’s league reflecting the increased interest in racquetball locally.

The board of directors of SDRA include: Charlie Brunfield, IRA and MGPB (Mel Gorhams-Pacific Beach); Ken Jacques, Chula Vista handball and racquetball club; Ken Josefson, U.S. Navy; Randy Krauss, Jewish Community Center; Dr. Bud Muehleisen, Muehleisen courts; and: Joe Ogilvie, MGPB; John and Nancy Steinbacher, GORA (Gorhams Oceanside Racquetball Association);

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U.S. Courts Club Association announces statistical survey

Jim Austin, executive director for the USCCA (United States Court Club Association) has announced the compilation of a national statistical survey of and for court clubs.

The survey, Austin said, is being sent to all court clubs currently in operation, and the composite results will be limited to those clubs participating in the survey, and to USCCA members.

Members and potential members are urged to attend the USCCA annual meeting and seminars scheduled for September 1975 in St. Louis.

Transcripts of the Los Angeles seminar covering court cost financing, construction costs and techniques, bookkeeping systems, pro-shop operations, successful club operation, membership structuring and court club charges are still available—by joining the USCCA and payment of $25 per copy.

The 45-page report is excellent background material for anyone contemplating a racquetball club, and is a valuable summary for those already in the business.

Austin reported a new location for the association. The USCCA has moved to 2020 Southwest Freeway, suite 200, Houston, Texas 77006. The new telephone number is (713) 524-3894.

Memberships in the USCCA are open to existing clubs, organizations directly concerned with the sport of racquetball, such as equipment manufacturers, and prospective owner/managers of court clubs.
Steve Smith is I.R.A intercollegiate champion

The Third Annual I.R.A. Intercollegiate Tournament started with a bang. For the first time women played. Seventeen from five different colleges participated in the first women's division.

The men's division had 47 entries from 14 different colleges. Friday, March 21, 1975, the men A Singles and Doubles played one round, and B Singles played two rounds. The ladies' play did not start until Saturday, March 22, 1975.

After the first rounds players and guests had a banquet at M.S.U. University Center. This was one of the highlights of the entire tournament. Guests were Myron Roderick from the IRA office; Bill Tanner, Athletic Director—M.S.U.; Billy Murphy; Lee Peoples—Building Manager, M.S.U.; Extramural Director, M.S.U.—E. V. "Lige" Turman; Eddie Ellsworth; Frank Simonton; Harriette Lavenue; Al Brown; Phil DeBoo; Tournament Director and M.S.U. Racquetball Advisor Geddes Self and 60 players.

The tournament started out being a dog fight between Jones of Berea College, Illinois, and M.S.U. The results for the first day action was 5 points for each of these teams.

A SINGLES: Saturday saw John Lynch of Illinois defeat number two seeded Tom Whipple from Maryland. But Tom came back to beat Gary Davis from Berea for third place in A Singles.

The B Singles, featured Jim "Late" Cullen, MSU, defeating ex-team mate Mike Fleming. This was a hard fought match since Jim has beaten Mike in three other tournaments. Scot Hemphill was seeded second in B Singles and ran into a real hustler in Frankie Woodward from M.S.U. Frankie could not play on the team because only four members can play on one team. The match was between two real tough men with a great deal of pride. The game went three rounds with Woodward being the winner. This was the first time Illinois showed any sign of breaking to the press Memphis State was starting to apply.

The Men's Doubles was no different from A and B Singles with everyone trying to beat M.S.U. and Illinois.

B Singles on Sunday started with Jim "Late" Cullen playing the hustler Frankie Woodward. Frank won the first game and was in the match all the way but the experienced Jim was just too great. Jim Cullen won the match and became the first person to win the B Singles I.R.A. Intercollegiate Championship two consecutive years.

The finals—doubles was a true shoot out between the boys for Illinois and the Tigers of Memphis State. Rich-Huss were defeated in the first game, 21-11, but came back in the second game to make it a real war. Dean Nichopoulos and Jim Thoni from M.S.U. had to get back on their game plan with Thoni shooting the ball and Dean covering the court like a glove.

In this match tempers started showing and both teams were playing well. In a match like this the home court advantage had its effect (meaning the match would have probably gone the other way in Illinois). Nichopoulos and Thoni won the third game and are the doubles champs.

A SINGLES

Steve Smith has had a long year to wait to become the IRA Intercollegiate Champion. Last year Smith was beaten by Stafford in the semifinals. This year proved to be different. The only person to carry Smith to three games were ex-team mate A. B. Henry. The final between Smith and John Lynch proved to be somewhat of a real hustling match. Steve helped his concentration and went on to win the match in two games.

The IRA has held three Intercollegiate Championships and this is the first year for one school to dominate the sport with all three champions coming from one school.

WOMEN'S A FINALS

Martha Byrd from Florida defeated Janice Segall from Texas, 21-19, 21-14. Martha is one real fine player.

In the Women's B Finals Ellen Jayne from U. Chattanooga defeated Diane Palayola from M.S.U.—21-3, 21-3. Ellen is another real fine player.

Memphis State had the only team in the Women's Doubles division but credit should be given Harriette Lavenue and her doubles team for the real hard work they have done. Marshall and D. Vinson defeated Laroche and C. Vinson, 21-4, 21-15. This match gave the 1975 Women's Division title to M.S.U.

Players and tournament sponsors expressed their appreciation to Lisa Stephens for the hospitality room. Thanks to Gary Stephens, Larry Liles, Alan Kahn, Jerry D'Amore, John Dunlap, David Bledsoe, Randy Stafford, Lee Peoples, Lee Maxwell, Steve Smith, Jim Cullen, and Dean Nichopoulos for refereeing.

MEN'S TEAM SCORES

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WOMEN'S TEAM SCORES

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<td>U. Tennessee</td>
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Halverson invited, and accepts, and wins Dallas invitational

John Halverson of San Diego accepted the offer to play in the January 24-26 Dallas master’s singles invitational, and the message that comes through on the score sheet is: Be careful who you invite to an invitational.

Halverson won with a perfect score of 315 points based on one point for each point scored, plus four for each match won. The hosts finished second and third.

Dr. William Sellar finished second in a field of ten with 300 cumulative points. Halverson took Sellar, the 1974 national champion, by a score of 31-20.

In his match with 1974 runner-up to the national champion, Richard Walker, Halverson outpointed his rival by the identical score of 31-20. Walker finished third with a 270-point score.

The invitational tournament was played in the Centre Tennis Club facilities and was managed by Tom McKie. Refereeing the matches were Pete and Shannon Wright, Phil Kolb, Jerry Brazil and Brad Walker.

In the order of finish the following took part in the tournament (accumulated score in parentheses): Al Rossi (266), San Francisco; Joe Zelson (250), St. Louis; Chet Howard (223), Middleton, Wisconsin; Ivan Bruner, tie (223), Madison, Wisconsin; Tom Stidham (207), Clearwater, Florida; Milton Karp (203), Houston; Harold Cooper (155), Dallas.

Taking part in the action at the Centre tennis club were, from left to right, front: Tom Stidham, Harold Cooper, Ivan Bruner, John Halverson, Richard Walker. Standing: Milt Karp, Joe Zelson, Bill Sellar, Chet Howard, and Al Rossi.

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RACQUETBALL
Marquette forms club

Marquette University, Milwaukee, recently formed its first campus Racquetball Club. Membership is open to all students, faculty, and staff as well as members of the Marquette community. Prompting the organization of the club was the January 17 opening of the Helfaer Tennis Stadium and Recreation Center. The center offers Marquette community one of the nation's finest recreational facilities.

The three handball-racquetball courts are consistently crowded with a wealth of athletic talent from Marquette's campus. The club boasts more than 70 members with a variety of skill levels, and tournament director, Sue Chatterton (one of the area's better players) has scheduled a mixture of tournaments and clinics through the next school year.

The more advanced players include students Ed Arias, Ken and Sheryl Warm, Tom Schuete, and Kathy Klaver. Faculty-staff groups are represented by John Rudoff, Dr. Larry Preo, and Mrs. Pat Mattek. According to Steve Olson, club president, club members are anxiously awaiting the first annual "Spring Into Intramurals" tournament.

Rose Festival announced

The Oregon Racquetball Association has gone to the printer with entry forms for the 1975 Rose Festival Racquetball Tournament scheduled June 9-15 in the Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland.

Contestants are urged to request forms early. State chairman Peter Lubisich III says the club is expecting over 200 entries. Events include A, B, C, D, Singles, Novice, Women's Open, and Women's Novice, Seniors, Masters, and Junior Boys. There will also be open doubles and consolation in all events.

The Oregon State Racquetball Committee was formed in January with the following members: Sandy Weinstein, Vic Blumenthal, Nello Vanelli, Sonja Sharp, Alexander Hamilton, Dr. C. Wayne Drake, Dr. Mike Hardin, Henry Schulte, Harvey Fusion, Ron Walp and Dr. Peter Lubisich (chairman). The committee will help promote racquetball in the state of Oregon.
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