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COVER: Illustration by Ellis Chappell
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The International Racquetball Association is attempting to find the correct addresses of the individuals below. If you know their whereabouts, please contact the IRA office at 5545 Murray Road, Memphis, Tennessee 38117.

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Gary Isaak
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Linton

Texas
James Clements
Mike Hickman
Ben F. Irby III
Letters To The Editor

Double Your Pleasure

Having just attended the National Doubles Championship, I feel compelled to express my delight with the tournament and the sportsmanship displayed at the tournament.

Besides being a well-run tournament, the level of pure enjoyment shared by everybody was phenomenal. The sportsmanship expressed on the courts was even more amazing.

I would like to single out the National Juniors Doubles Championship Finals match as an example that serious competition can still be fun. I am not singling them out because they are unique, but because they are representative of what occurred in all the matches and because I happened to be the referee for this match. Refereeing this match was actually fun in that the four players, Chris Mathewson, Mitch Buckler, Ken Kaiblanen, and Scott Hawkins helped on close calls and did not express the usual displeasure when a close call was made which was not in their favor. This is not to say that they did not do everything in their power to win—they did—but their effort to win occurred during the rally and not after the point was over.

To see the honesty and sportsmanship displayed by these young people at the finals of a national championship was a reward in itself.

Sincerely,
Allan Seitelman
New York State Director

Oops

Your number six of Questions & Answers on page 34 of the September/October 1978 issue of RACQUETBALL Magazine is very confusing and your answer is wrong. The answer should be (a) an out serve. What happened??

Edward Lucmore
Corpus Christi, TX

You caught us on that one, but you, and we, missed another one. Number four isn't correct either. It should be [a]

Bouncing the ball no longer results in an out serve and hasn't since 1976.
We'd like to say that we're never wrong, but it's all too obvious that we are. Thanks for writing. —Eds.

Sunny Weathers

Ed Weathers' article 'Beat the Clock' is an outstanding example of good writing tempered with experience. He expressed all the thoughts I have when playing younger players, but was too shy to admit. It's the old adage come true: 'Experience counts!'

A truly worthy article . . . .

Nancy Martin
Court Sport, Inc.
San Diego, CA

Thanks

Just a short note to thank Fred White and the I.R.A. for contributing to the success of the 1st Annual Royal Palm Festival Open Racquetball Tournament. Your cooperation and racquetballs were very much appreciated. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Robert J. O'Hara
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6 Racquetball
Tennis players call it "tennis elbow," but it isn't just a tennis injury. A warped racquet, an incorrect stroke in a fast game of racquetball can mean pain, inflammation and damage to your forearm muscle or elbow. An injury that can only get worse or even chronic if it's ignored or improperly treated.

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Dear Fellow Racquetball Players:

Having just returned from the National Doubles Championships and the Fall meeting of your Board of Directors, I am more enthusiastic than ever about the future of the IRA and the game of racquetball! I have received numerous compliments about the fellowship and provision for social interchange that surrounds every IRA tournament. The credit, of course, should go to Luke St. Onge who is working so hard in Memphis. I would also be remiss if I did not use this occasion to thank the Board for the serious thought and discussion that made our two full days of meetings so productive. Let me briefly review some of the actions taken in the Sterling, VA. meeting.

The biggest change was the decision to publish RACQUETBALL Magazine monthly beginning in March of 1979. This change will enable the association to keep you better informed, allow more space for tournament results, and, in general, give racquetball the exposure it deserves. Incidentally, I suppose you have noticed that the magazine has been ON TIME and published regularly, along with a startling upgrading in the quality of articles and design. The monthly magazine will bring an increase in dues, but the fee structure, we feel, is more than fair. Details of the fee structure can be found elsewhere in RACQUETBALL Magazine.

Another change, in response to what YOU wanted, is the change in the age brackets for juniors. We now think that the brackets reflect what is best for our younger players—AND, we've added a 10-and-under division!

I feel the Board made a wise decision in making all divisions the same for both men and women. In the future, we will make provision in the Regionals and Nationals for women in the 35, 45, 55, and over 60 categories as well as the Jr. and open events.

The 1979 National Singles will be held in Las Vegas. We have already made the arrangements and should have a SUPER tournament—we are letting you know early so you can make plans accordingly.

The Board also attempted to clear up some of the confusion surrounding some of the game rules. Perhaps the biggest change is the service rule. Previously the rule had indicated that the serve commenced when the ball left the server's hand. This rule caused difficulty as many players are in the habit of bouncing the ball before actually serving. This is somewhat the same as the server in tennis who gets the feel of the ball and prepares mentally by bouncing the ball with the racquet before serving. Thus, the board voted to change the rule to say that the "serve commences when the ball is struck by the racquet in an obvious attempt to serve the ball."

The other major change concerning the serve should help to promote an even tempo during games and eliminate some of the "psyching" games people play. All of us have watched Carlton Fisk call time out to remove an imaginary fly from his eye just as the pitcher starts to deliver the pitch. Some people think this sort of tactic adds to the suspense of a game—just as the racquetball player standing ready to receive the serve waits until the server starts to serve before holding his racquet aloft. This nonsense can add innumerable minutes to a match. Incidentally, it has always been my personal contention that the intent of a match is to pit your skills against the skills of your opponent. All of the peripheral garbage that creeps into many matches can only serve to cloud the final outcome. The IRA has decided to adopt the following policy: Following the referee's decision of "Point," "Side-out," "Hand-out," or "Hinder," the receiver shall be given a reasonable amount of time (generally not to exceed ten seconds) to get ready to receive the serve. When the receiver, in the referee's judgment, is ready, or has been given a "reasonable" amount of time, the score is called. At this point the server ten seconds in which to serve the ball. This should eliminate most of the unnecessary stalling that has cluttered so many matches in the past.

Other changes concern the definition of an amateur player, the sanctioning of invitational tournaments, plans for the National Junior Championships for 1979, improving our support of state directors and minor changes in the IRA constitution.

The Board of Directors and I feel that most of the reaction to our efforts over the past few months has been positive. I'd like to give special thanks to Seamco for their loyalty and generous financial support. It is gratifying to have so many former board members still actively involved in supporting the association. People such as Bill Dunn, Len Marks, Tom McKie, Gene Grapes, Myron Roderick, Charlie Garfinkle, Bud Mulheisen, Ivan Bruner, Bill Sellars, Steve Strandemo, and many, many others support the belief that the IRA is promoting the best interests of the amateur racquetball player and has the philosophy and programs to make a great sport even better. Thanks guys—with your continued support I think we're going to be able to achieve some of the objectives we all have been so eager to see over the past ten years.

Good luck, keep swinging, and remember—you are always a winner when you play racquetball, regardless of the score.

Yours in racquetball,

Bob

Bob Folsom
President, IRA
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NEW POLICIES

The International Racquetball Association's Board of Directors met in Sterling, Virginia and made the following landmark decisions that will dramatically affect the future development of racquetball.

NEW DIVISIONS OF TOURNAMENT PLAY: Women's Masters, 45-55; Women's Golden Masters, 55, 60, and 65; Junior, 10 and under in both boys and girls.

ELIGIBILITY FOR JUNIORS: A junior may play for the entire calendar year in the age division that he qualifies for as of January 1. Example: If a junior is age 15 on January 1, 1979 and turns 16 on January 15, 1979, he can still play in the age 15 and under for the balance of 1979.

MONIES FOR REGIONALS: Open division winners' air fare for World Championships has been reduced to ½ round trip coach fare to make it consistent with all other divisions.

(Related to the previous decision.)

REGIONAL DISTRICTS: The Northern Region has been eliminated and those states assigned to other existing regions. The new assignments for those states are as follows: Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa are assigned to the Midwest Region. North Dakota and South Dakota are assigned to the Northwest Region and Nebraska is assigned to the Southwest Region.

PROFESSIONALISM: A professional has been further defined as a player who takes money of any amount in a pro sanctioned event. To regain amateur status, a player may not have taken any money from a professionally sanctioned tournament for at least one year and must submit in writing a request for reinstatement of amateur status to the Executive Director of the I.R.A.

RULES: Serve: The serve begins when the ball is struck with an obvious attempt to serve the ball.

10-second rule: The score is called when both the server and receiver are in position to serve or receive. The server must put the ball in play within 10 seconds after the score is called.

Hinders: The rule allowing for the appealing of hinder calls to the referee and linesman has been repealed.

Regionals: A participant in the I.R.A.'s regionals may play only one championship event with the second event being a non-championship singles or doubles event.

DUES: RACQUETBALL Magazine will go monthly in March and at that time dues will be increased accordingly to the following: 1 year single, $10; 2 year single, $18; 1 year family, $15; 2 year family, $20; 1 year junior, $6; 1 year collegiate, $6; 1 year military, $6; lifetime, $100.

NOTE: All those with current memberships as of March 1, 1979 will not be charged the higher dues rate until their time of renewal. If members renew before March 1979, regardless of their renewal date, they may renew at the current rates.

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O. K., let's play ball. Zero serving zero.

Thus began the I.R.A.'s 10th Annual National Doubles Championships at the Capitol Court Club in Sterling, Virginia October 19-22, 1978. The whole weekend was like a reunion: handshakes, hugs, pictures of the dog and kids. The Doubles were competitive and exciting on the courts and friendly and social off the courts. Matches were won—and lost—with good humor and grace as 160 of the top doubles players in the United States and Europe met to play off for Number One. This year, everybody was a winner.

By Charlie Garfinkel

Photography by Tom Tompсон and Kip Brundage
In the Men's Open Doubles, two young stalwarts from the state of Texas, David Peck, who resembles Jack Armstrong, the All American Boy, and Jeff Kwartler, who has the swagger of a cowboy hero, showed everyone how the game of doubles should be played. In the finals they defeated the Memphis duo of Randy Stafford, a former pro, and Gary Stephens, a tremendously improved southpaw, by the scores of 21-4, 21-20.

Peck and Kwartler were ahead by the scores of 21-4, 18-9 late in the match. Their power, speed, serves, incredible shooting, and amazing gets had seemingly completely demoralized Stafford and Stephens. They seemed hopelessly outclassed. In fact, many spectators had already left.

Suddenly, Stafford and Stephens turned the match around. Using well-placed serves and tremendous service returns, Stafford and Stephens patiently waited until they got the shot they wanted. And shot they did! They took the lead at 20-18—twelve straight points and on the verge of evening the match up at one game apiece!

At this juncture, Stephens served what appeared to be a rollout serve to Kwartler. Kwartler somehow got the edge of his racquet on the ball, which caromed off the sidewall, then rolled flat off the front wall. The crowd went wild.

Needless to say, the finish was anticlimactic. Peck and Kwartler regained the serve and kept the ball in play until they put the ball away. Match point resulted from a Stafford error off his forehand.

Peck, who played the left side, is a right hander whose backhand is as good as most left handers' forehands. Kwartler's forehand pinch shot is one of the best in the game.

Both players were generous in their praise of each other. "David was tremendous on the left side." Kwartler said. "Even when Stephens and Stafford made their great comeback he still hung in and played his hardest." Peck replied, "It gives you a great deal of confidence to know that almost every forehand that your partner hits will roll out."

For the losers, Randy Stafford appears to be approaching the level of play that he showed five years ago before a serious shoulder operation set him back. His partner, Gary Stephens, a slim left-hander, has worked hard on his game and the results show it. He has always been known as a great retriever and now his shooting game is strong.

On the way to the finals, Peck and Kwartler defeated Dr. Bud Muehleisen of San Diego, and Bill Hildebrand by the scores of 21-10, 18-21, 15-1. Dr. Bud, who is known as Fudley to his friends, is the holder of many national championships and is generally recognized as one of the greatest doubles players to have played the game.

Dr. Bud, who entered the Open and Senior Doubles instead of the Masters for "the challenge," said it all: "I have won many National Open Doubles Championships in the past ten years and I have played against all of the top all-time greats. However, I have never been so completely dominated and outplayed as I was on the left side by David Peck. He was awesome. His execution and gets were tremendous. I'm not saying that Jeff Kwartler wasn't strong, but in this match Peck was incredible!"

In the other men's semis, Randy Stafford and Gary Stephens defeated former National Doubles Champions Gene Gibbs and Bob Kraut by the amazing scores of 21-8, 21-14. Gibbs and Kraut were rated as slight favorites. However, they became frustrated quickly as Stafford and Stephens played the same game that they had throughout the tournament. Hitting a wide variety of serves, many sidewall and passing shots, and around-the-wall balls, they succeeded in completely ruining Gibb's and Kraut's concentration. Even though Gibbs and Kraut made a belated run, they still lost decisively. Kraut, who had a sour expression on his face after the match said, "We were just outplayed."

In the men's quarterfinals, Peck and Kwartler defeated Ed Remen, the host...
pro, and Jack Blystone. Although Remen's great gets and Blystone's shooting made the first game a close 21-16, Peck and Kwartler proved too strong in winning the second game by the score of 21-8.

Stafford and Stephens defeated Artie Diemar and Dave Luft of New York City by the scores of 21-16, 21-16. Some experts had given Diemar (winner of many singles tournaments in the New York and Mid Atlantic area) and Luft an outside chance of winning the whole tournament. Both players have strong forehands and super court coverage. Diemar and Luft can roll our forehand after forehand, so Stafford and Stephens' control of the tempo of play was impressive and led to a well-earned victory.

Gibbs and Kraut defeated the two Mikes from the east coast: Mike Romano and Mike Luciw. Luciw is a former National Doubles Champion with George Rudysz (1972) and runner-up in the National Amatuer Singles in 1976. Romano is a former National 3-wall Champion (1974) and is rated as one of the top singles players in the east.

Their remarks about losing (21-12, 21-16) were a study in buck-passing. Romano said it was Luciw's fault. Luciw countered, "It was Romano's fault." Suffice to say that Gibbs' and Kraut's power was too much. The two Mikes have played better.

In the last quarterfinal match, two youngsters named Scott Hawkins, the National Junior Singles Champion, and Kenny Kahlilhanen gave the veteran Dr. Bud Muelheisen and Bill Hilldebrand all they could handle before succumbing by the scores of 21-17, 21-15. Scott's and Kenny's outstanding serving and hard hit shots had the crowd buzzing, but Dr. Bud's and Hilldebrand's experience proved to be too much for the youngsters. They later proved their potential by winning the National Juniors Doubles Championships.

Women's Open

The women are on the move. Serves are stronger and more varied than ever before. The selection of shots is tremendous and the women are in superb condition.

The winners of the four-team round robin competition were Francine Davis of King of Prussia, and Elaine Lee of Lancaster. They exemplified the calibre of play of the women.

Two of the other teams were extremely strong. They were Bonnie Stoll (Conn.) and Mary Dee (St. Louis), and Carol Frencik and Andrea Katz of Virginia.

The competition was so close going into the last match that there would have been a three-way tie in the tournament if Stoll-Dee defeated Davis-Lee.

Luke St. Onge was wondering how they would solve a three-way tie when it was already 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. Bonnie Stoll, who is one of the hardest hitters in the women's game, and Mary Dee, who is a protege of Pete Wright's (she's in good company as Pete's last prize pupil was Shannon Wright!), had defeated Davis-Lee at 21-11 and had a big lead in the second game. But never-say-die Davis and Lee battled back to win game two 21-18 to even the match.

In game three, Stoll and Dee were ahead and Luke St. Onge looked as if he had aged five years. Then again, no one could look that old.

Then . . . . We'll let Francine Davis tell you. "We knew we had to do something. We slowed down the game but started shooting at every opportunity when we were serving. Our intensity and our kill shots seemed to demoralize Stoll and Dee. Even though they had the big lead, they seemed to get demoralized as we caught them. In fact, we outscored them 15-1."

Getting hot after being behind seemed to be a pattern for Francine and Elaine. After losing the first game in a prior match to Frencik and Katz, they blitzed them 21-1 in the second. They then went on to a routine 15-8 win in the third.

You may have thought that the previous matches were close. Even closer was the earlier match in which Frencik-Katz defeated Dee-Stoll by the scores of 21-7, 11-21, 15-14.

Francine Davis and Elaine Lee should
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be extremely proud of their accomplishment over a small but exceptionally talented field. As Francine herself said, "I'm playing a lot more and I'm much more intense. I've been working on the Nautilus and it has really improved my strength." Elaine Lee agreed. "I've never shot the ball better and my stamina is much improved."

Everyone is looking forward to seeing more of the women in tournament play.

**Men's Senior**

About an hour before the Men's Senior Doubles Finals was scheduled, one of the participants, National Senior Singles Champion Jim Austin, was relaxing in the lounge. However, he looked very unhappy. When asked why he was looking so forlorn before a championship match, Austin replied, "I'm in a terrible predicament. If my partner Charlie Garfinkel, and I lose the finals, we naturally lose the championship. Even worse, if we win, then I'm stuck playing with that big goofball for another year!"

Austin and Garfinkel did win. Austin isn't saying anything about next year.

In the Senior Doubles Finals, they defeated Mark Wayne from San Francisco, who was playing in his 4th National Senior Doubles Final (he has also been in two National Senior Singles Finals) and Bob Klass, a new senior from Denver, with a great forehand and lightning quick reflexes. The scores were 16-21, 21-7, 15-7. Wayne is 6'4" and weighs 215 pounds. He has a rare combination of crushing power and a delicate touch. When he is on, all you can do is hope that he cools off. As for Klass, he is in tremendous shape: he had just run in a 26-mile marathon the week before.

As the match started, Wayne and Klass quickly jumped out to a 14-7 lead. Austin and Gar finally caught them at 16-16. Wayne and Klass went ahead 18-16. At this point, Wayne hit the shot of the day—an overhead kill shot from the deep right into the left front corner. They took advantage to clinch the game 21-16.

In game two, Austin and Gar finally showed their mettle. They jumped out to a 10-0 lead by hitting good serves and hitting the sidewall pinch shots that they are both famous for. Wayne, who had been unbelievable with his reverse corners and putaway service returns, had cooled off. He and Klass had lost their momentum. Austin and Gar cashed in by the score of 21-7.

In game three, Austin and Gar finally showed their fight. They defeated Jack Soble and Jerry Davis of Cleveland in a match that could have easily gone three games. Both Soble and Davis, who look like two characters from a John O'Hara novel, are two of the finest sportsmen in the game. They also possess two of the deadliest forehands in the game. Davis is a righty. Soble is a lefty.

Austin-Garfinkel quickly jumped out to a 12-4 lead. Soble and Davis rallied to go ahead 18-14. Austin and Gar tied the score at 18-18. The teams jockeyed back and forth; Davis and Soble both had serves at 20-19. But Austin-Garfinkel retrieved the serve and went on to win 21-20.

In game two, they jumped out to a 19-1 lead. Soble-Davis came back to 15-19. At this point Garfinkel rolled a backhand flat for point 20. The Gar then hit an overhead kill shot for point 21 and a 21-15 victory.

In the other semis Wayne-Klass were defeating Muehlenkamp and Tom Waltz, who resides in New London, Connecticut, 21-20, 21-17. Tom is known as one of the top right side players in the East and played well up front. Dr. Bud, who had just completed a tough game open match, appeared to be a little tired.

Both games were identical in that they were tied at 17 all. In the first game a Wayne kill shot ended it at 21-20. In game two, Wayne hit three unreturnable overhead kill shots at 18-17 to help his team win the second game and the match 21-17.

Austin and Garfinkel toughened themselves up for the finals by playing Duane Cooper and Harold Cooper from Texas in the quarterfinals. They are not related but they played like Siamese twins in losing 21-4, 11-21, 15-13.

Austin and Gar were down 12-9 in the third game. The pressure was unbelievable. But Austin and Gar recaptured the serve and tied the match at 12-12. They fell behind 13-12. After regaining the serve they controlled the play to lead 1413. On match point a shot came off the right sideline. Each one of the Coopers thought that the other one would take the shot. Neither swung at the ball. At 21-14, 11-21, 15-13, the match was over.

In the other quarterfinal matches, a real donnybrook was taking place between Myron Rodick and two, and Len Stream against Soble and Davis. Even though Rodick, who is from Oklahoma, and Stream, who is from California, are nationally known, they couldn't generate the needed points in going down to a 21-16, 18-21, 15-5 defeat. Soble and Davis hit forehand winners from all over the court to earn a well deserved victory.

Meanwhile, Bud Muehlenkamp and Tom Waltz were defeating Ed Castillo and Pat Columbo of New York City, 21-8, 21-13. This match had some interesting sideline. Both Columbo and Castillo were missing because they were aiming for the small area in Waltz's back rather than the front wall.

In the fourth and final quarterfinal match, Klass and Wayne were defeating against Dr. Bill Sellers and Richard Walker of Dallas. They didn't lose a point. It's probably because they won by forfeit.
Or are you one of those still playing in basketball sneakers? Either way, you're selling yourself short.

Let's look at it this way; nobody moves around in tennis shoes better than a champion like John Newcombe. But even he needs a special shoe when he leaves the grass, clay and asphalt tennis courts for the hardwood floors of racquetball.

They can give you much better traction, with a suction tread gum rubber sole that grips so well you can practically scale the walls. They wear longer because of the double-stitched top grain leather, canvas or composition uppers and durable toe overlays. And they feel better because of a contoured anatomical footbed and heel counter.

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San Antonio, Texas 78216
A division of Program Tennis Service
In the first game of the finals against Jackson-Rossi, Grapes and Schattner were blown out 21-7, as the lefty Jackson rolled out ball after ball and Rossi owned the right corner. The wise-cracking 48-year-old Jackson and the unbelievably-conditioned Rossi were awesome.

But, as so often happens in this great game of racquetball, Schattner and Grapes turned the match around in game two. With Grapes shooting his forehand unerringly and Schattner making incredible gets on the right side, they won game two 21-14.

Down 8-4 in the third they mounted a spirited comeback and won the deciding game by the score of 15-12. Jackson and Rossi never could regain their earlier momentum.

After defeating Charlie Jackson and Al Rossi in the finals by the score of 7-21, 21-14, 15-12 to successfully defend their championship, they had nothing but accolades for each other.

Gene Grapes remarked, "Al carried me. I was tired and my arm was sore. Al is a tremendous fellow on and off the court. He has improved so much the past few years that it is hard to believe." Dr. Schattner commented: "I'm Gene's canoeme. I load the bullets. He shoots the shot. We have mutual respect and friendship for each other. I'm moving faster and I've lost twenty pounds. Gene and I are extremely proud that we have won the Masters Doubles two years in a row." You often hear players saying that "I could have been one of the greatest players ever if I had started ten years ago." Most would not have been, Gene Grapes would have. At 49 years old, he won the Patterson Open. At 56, his forehand continues to be a model for youngsters, oldsters, and pros.

At 48, Dr. Schattner uses his intensity on the court, coupled with outstanding serves and a good forehand pinch shot, to make his team a tough one to beat.

Grapes-Schattner had to fight their way to the finals. In the semis they defeated Bob Folsom from Maine, who is the IRA's president and the IRA Regional Master Champ, and V.Z. Lawton, IRA National Commissioner and the harmonica playing champ from Oklahoma, by the heart stopping scores of 21-15, 20-21, 15-14. An ace serve by Schattner to the right corner won the match.

Folsom, who at 49 looks fifteen years younger, has a flawless backhand, while V.Z. played a strong right side. It was a great match.

In the other semis Jackson-Rossi defeated the team of Richard Walker and Bill Sellars, the 1976 Masters Champions. Walker and Sellars kept up their tremendous play by taking Rossi and Jackson to three games and barely losing by the scores of 21-14, 18-21, 15-10.

In the quarters, Sellars and Walker defeated Dick Lane and Jack Hogan by the scores of 19-21, 21-11, 15-12. Grapes and Schattner defeated Ivan Bruner and John Brandui 21-17, 21-18 in a well-played match. Folsom-Lawton defeated Herbie Myers and Frank Cerravoco by the scores of 21-14, 21-14. Jackson-Rossi defeated Luther Green and Larry McGee 21-16, 21-18.

The close scores are indicative of the calibre and intensity of play of the Masters.

In a field of four teams, Cal Murphy and Stan Berney, who are from California, won the round robin event. The amazing part about this is that one of the team's members, Stan Berney, was so badly crippled from arthritis 20 years ago that he couldn't get out of a wheel chair. Therapy and medication helped him get back on his feet, and onto the racquetball court.

In their final match against defending champions, Ike Gumer and Irv Zeitman from Louisville, Murphy and Berney combined better team play to their advantage. Gumer and Zeitman seemed to let too many things bother them, while Murphy and Berney took

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Golden Masters

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In their final match against defending champions, Ike Gumer and Irv Zeitman from Louisville, Murphy and Berney combined better team play to their advantage. Gumer and Zeitman seemed to let too many things bother them, while Murphy and Berney took
everything in stride. This helps immensely when both teams are fairly equal in ability. After splitting the first two games 21-17, 10-21, Murphy and Bernay won the third game 15-9.

Ike Gumer, who is present Golden Master Singles Champion, was easily the best shooter on the court, and his partner, Irv Zeitman, played a strong right side.

Oh yes, Cal and Stan are a combined total of 119 years old. Not bad!!

When you watch the Golden Masters, you know that they may not move quite as fast as the Open players, but they stay in top shape and are great sportsmen. They always try to make the right shot. They hit the ball to the proper opening on the court. They rarely make foolish errors. They are excellent examples for the younger players.

**Men's B**

In the B Doubles finals, two young Marines from nearby Quantico Marine Air Force Base named Fernando Avalos and Mark Maffei shot down Brian Kimball and Neel Voss by the scores of 21-18, 21-12.

This was a great match even though the players were supposedly B players.

The B players are much improved from a few years ago.

Kimball-Voss played well but they didn’t quite have the consistency to stay with the winners.

Avalos-Maffei elected to play up and back. Maffei, who played deep, shot well off both sides, but was particularly impressive on the forehand side. He also hit a lot of overhead kills and passes. As for Avalos, he should represent a vacuum cleaner company. He gobbed up every shot up front. His speed afoot and his reflexes were tremendous.

In the semis, Maffei-Avalos had their hands full before winning over Bill Beitch and Ed Hyek by the scores of 17-21, 21-8, 15-10.

In a match that had the surprising scores of 21-3, 21-20, Kimball and Voss started out like Brumfield and Hogan in the first game. They let up a little and let their opponents John Atherton and Jim Atherton back into the match. They hung on to win their semifinals match by the scores of 21-3, 21-20.


**National Juniors**

"Ladies and gentlemen, the new Men's Open Doubles Winners are Scott Hawkins and Kenny Kahlilani."

If you are saying to yourselves that the previous statement is wrong, you are right. However, you may very well be hearing those names as Open Doubles winners in the near future.

Scott, who is from California and the National Junior Singles Champion, and Kenny, who is from San Antonio, Texas, first met at the National Junior Singles and decided to team up. It was a wise choice. They both attended the Ektelon Junior Camp in Dayton this past summer and agree that it greatly helped their game.

The lefty-righty team of Scott and Kenny had an excellent game plan. Kenny, on the right, hit super passes, serves, and ceiling balls, and shot when the opportunity presented itself. He also made some incredible gets. Scott, on the left, shot, and shot, and shot.

They both agree that a lefty-righty combination is tough to beat. Almost all the shots are hit on their forehands, and even if they are out of position, they can still get around and get to the ball on their forehands.

How do players like Scott and Kenny get to be so good at the young age of 17? They start playing at an earlier age than ever before. They get excellent...
National Doubles Championships

RESULTS

Men's Open


Quarter Finals: Kwartler & Peck over Blystone & Remen, 21-16, 21-8; Muelheisen & Hildebrand over Hawkins & Kahlil, 21-17, 21-15; Stafford & Stephens over Diemar & Luft, 21-16, 21-16; Gibbs & Kraut over Romano & Luciw, 21-12, 21-16.

Semi-finals: Kwartler & Peck over Muelheisen & Hildebrand, 21-10, 18-21, 15-1; Stafford & Stephens over Gibbs & Kraut, 21-8, 21-14.


Women's Open

First Round: E. Lee, PA, & F. Davis, NY, over J. Pokorny & B. Loube, MD, 21-8, 21-3; M. Dee & B. Stoll, MO, over J.J. Decatur & C. Clements, MD, 21-17, 21-12; A. Katz & D. French, VA, byes.


Third Round: Katz & French over Dee & Stoll, 21-7, 11-21, 15-14; Pokorny & Loube over Decatur & Clements, 21-18, 21-13; Lee & Davis, byes.
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Just as every player strives for consistency, so are his demands for court playability. That's why I designed a superb court panel.

Being a player and an owner of court clubs, I designed the M-M Panel with the player and owner in mind.

M-M Panel plays just like concrete. Every bounce is true. I tried to make the ball bounce different than concrete, but it was super. And, the new insulating, sound-deadening properties are the state-of-the-art.

For the court owner, M-M Panel has put together playability, durability, aesthetics, convertibility and minimal maintenance all in one system. The results are great savings in money over a long period of time.

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For the best panel, the best price and the best consulting service, call or write now.

M-M Court Systems

2340 Tampa Avenue       El Cajon, California 92020       714/697-1344

Dr. Bud Muehleisen
1978 International Racquetball Association Masters Singles Champion
Fourth Round: Lee & Davis over Katz & French, 10-21, 21-1, 15-8; Dee & Stoll over Pokorny & Loube, forfeit; Decatur & Clements, bye.

Fifth Round: Lee & Davis over Dee & Stoll, 11-21, 21-18, 15-9; Katz & French over Decatur & Clements, 21-8, 21-12; Pokorny & Loube, bye.

Winners: Davis & Lee over Katz & French.

Consolation: Dee & Stoll over Pokorny & Loube.

**Men's Senior**

First Round: J. Austin, TX, & C. Garfinkel, NY, over P. Drennon & F. Anderson, VA, 21-20, 21-1; D. Cooper & H. Cooper, TX, over E. Hyjek & Wm. Beitsch, PA, 21-13, 21-16; J. Davis & J. Sobie, OH, over H. Myers & C. Fellicetti, PA, 21-14, 19-21, 15-4; L. Stream, CA, & M. Roderick, OK, over P. Stone & F. Gaudette, VA, 21-9, 21-9; M. Wayne, CA, & B. Klass, CO, over P-J. Searce & J. Ware, MD, 21-12, 21-9; R. Walker & B. Sellars, TX, over L. St. Onge, TN, & E. Scarno, PA, 21-19, 21-17; P. Columbo & E. Castillo, NY, over F. White, FLA, & P. Crumney, Canal Zone; T. Waltz, CT, & B. Muehleisen, CA over C. Dean & B. Cerchiai, FLA, 21-8, 21-8.

Quarter Finals: Austin & Garfinkel over Cooper & Cooper, 21-14, 11-21, 15-13; Davis & Sobie over Stream & Roderick, 21-16, 18-21, 15-5; Wayne & Klass over Walker & Sellars, by forfeit; Waltz & Muehleisen over Columbo & Castillo, 21-13, 21-8.

Semi-finals: Austin & Garfinkel over Davis & Sobie, 21-20, 21-15; Wayne & Klass over Waltz & Muehleisen, 21-20, 21-17.

Finals: Austin & Garfinkel over Wayne & Klass, 16-21, 21-7, 15-7.

Consolation: Waltz & Muehleisen over Davis & Sobie, 21-1, 21-9.

**Masters**


Quarter Finals: Grapes & Shattner over Brunner & Brandrup, 21-7, 21-18; Folsom & Lawton over Myers & Ceravalo, 21-14, 21-14; Jackson & Rossi over Green & McGee, 21-15, 21-17; Walker & Sellars over Lane & Hogan, 9-21, 21-11, 15-12.


Finals: Grapes & Shattner over Jackson & Rossi, 7-21, 21-14, 15-12.

**Golden Masters**


Second Round: Zeitman & Gumer over Keils & Sena, 21-7, 21-16; Murphy & Berney over Turner &


**Men's B**


Quarter Finals: Avalos & Maffei over Rac & Harris, 21-18, 21-12; Beitsch & Hyjek over Brooks & Sacks, 17-4, 21-15, 15-12; Kimball & Voss over Owen & Brundage, 21-7, 21-12; Atherton & Atherton over Ginsburg & Friedlander, 21-16, 14-21, 15-7. (cont. on p. 46)
Jimmy the Greek, take heed. The odds-on favorite to become The Game of the Future is not golf or tennis or any of the reigning giants of the sports world. No, the name to remember, Jimmy, the password for the 1980s and beyond, is racquetball.

Just listen to the scouting reports. "There's a definite future for it," says a public television executive in Memphis, a hotbed of racquetball activity. "With a few modifications, the sport could be done live." Charles Brumfield, one of the game's top professional players, is on record as predicting that racquetball will become "the biggest participant sport in America" within the next 10 years. And a marketing executive for a leading beer maker recently told The Wall Street Journal "we're absolutely sold on racquetball" as an advertising medium.

Clearly, when the big advertisers begin to take notice of a sport, it's time to place your bets.

Little wonder, then, that the smart money nowadays is on racquetball. After all, it's the nation's fastest-growing participant sport, a billion-dollar business that has mushroomed almost overnight into a force to be reckoned with. And—good news for all you fans—present forecasts call for even better times ahead.

Consider, for example, the prospects for continued growth. If the odds makers are right, there are thousands, nay millions, of potential racquetball players out there, all of whom will soon see the light and take up the only true cause. Ten years ago there were fewer than 50,000 racquetball players in this country and not a court club to be found. Today, depending on whose figures you believe, between 5 and 8 million Americans play the game at some 800 court clubs. At this rate, according to Luke St. Onge, executive director of the International Racquetball Association (IRA), the number of court clubs could rise to 1,600 in the next year and a half alone, with a whopping 40 million players projected nationwide within the next two decades. The numbers coming out of the rival United States Racquetball Association (USRA) are equally optimistic. The USRA estimates that between 200 and 300 clubs will be constructed next year, while the association's president, Robert Kendler, predicts that racquetball will be able to claim some 50 million players by 1990.

Soon, training games such as Jokari and racquetball trainers will introduce racquetball to schools, playgrounds, and summer camps all over the U.S. And when those kids go on to any but the smallest colleges, there will be racquetball courts waiting for them.

Racquetball has come to the world mainly through U.S. military installations, virtually all of which have racquetball courts. There are public courts in France, Germany, Denmark, Saudi Arabia, Japan, and China. European governments are paying for U.S. pros to come to teach clinics. And Steve Strandemo and Bud Muleheizen are soon off to Saudi Arabia to teach a clinic.

A lot of these new converts are likely to be women. A national market survey predicts that 60 percent of the nation's players over the next two years will be women. Court clubs are gearing up to meet this expected windfall with all kinds of special deals designed to lure the ladies.
inside: free baby-sitting services, racquetball clinics, family memberships. Chicago's Mid-town Court House even has an all-woman racquetball league, in the form of 84 stewardesses, and there are also signs that women are beginning to move into some of the leadership positions in regional and national racquetball associations: Jean Lehr and Elaine Lee help make policy on the IRA Board of Directors; Cathy Austin is Executive Director of the NCCA; Ina Ivarson and Nancy Brown are State Directors for the IRA; and numerous women manage court clubs throughout the nation.

Court clubs, too, are changing as racquetball comes of age. The so-called "pure" club, offering racquetball and little else, is facing stiff competition from a slicker, more extensive, and presumably more profitable club that may represent the wave of the future in this area. Call them what you will—"multi-purpose," "full-service," or the more common moniker, "athletic clubs"—these new racquetball facilities all adhere to that familiar formula of the country club circuits, which holds that in order to be successful a club must cater to its members' every whim and desire. And cater they do, offering in addition to racquetball such little extras as swimming pools, gymnasiums, cocktail lounges, snack bars, spas, jogging tracks and barber shops. Other clubs also set aside a couple of courts for racquetball's close cousin, tennis, and a few clubs have even added (what else?) discos. Denver, Tucson, Detroit, Las Vegas (with one club under construction), to name just a few cities, have all witnessed the emergence of this new breed of court club.

If the trend continues, and there is every reason to believe that it will, the racquetball club of the '80s is likely to be a far cry from the "jock shops" that characterized the sport's early days. Instead, clubs could become what promoters like to call "social centers," which in plain terms means there would be a dozen different ways to spend your money. Besides playing racquetball at these elaborate super-clubs, you could also get smashed at the bar, stuffed at the restaurant, groomed at the barber shop and grooved at the disco.

Such grand visions aside, however, all is not rosy on the racquetball horizon. There's a dark cloud forming, some experts fear. Its name is "overcapacity." To get an idea of what that means, just imagine going through weeks of preparation for a big party, and when the day of the party finally rolls around, nobody shows up. That's the dilemma that could soon be facing some racquetball entrepreneurs, who have spent millions gearing up to meet the racquetball craze only to have their customers lured away by competitors. This trend is especially evident in large urban centers, where the competition for your attention—and your money—is keenest. In such cities as Chicago, where available court space may be outdistancing the market, some clubs have reported a 10 to 25 percent drop in court occupancy. Equipment makers are feeling the crunch, too. At least 94 companies now produce racquetball equipment and some firms are starting to undercut the competition by offering lower-priced racquets and balls. The competition is likely to get even tougher as racquetball players (that's you) become smarter and more selective. That could mean the end of the days of the $35 or better racquet, and players in some cities can now pick and
choose from among a number of court clubs within easy driving distance of their home.

Lest you be mislead by all this, however, bear in mind that in spite of recent advances, racquetball is still an infant when it comes to big-time sports in America. Outside of such high visibility areas as San Diego, Chicago or Memphis, the sport is still something that most people only hear or read about, much less play. You and I, of course, know that racquetball is the greatest thing to hit this country since the radar range. But much of the rest of the nation, alas, is still unenlightened.

That's where the idea of public courts comes in. With the possible exception of national television coverage (more about this later), the development of municipally-funded racquetball courts could do more to popularize the sport than any other factor. It's certainly the best way to introduce racquetball to the majority of Americans. It was the thousands of sand lot diamonds across the country that helped produce the DiMaggios and Robinsons of baseball, and anyone familiar with the asphalt basketball courts of New York City knows that Kareem Abdul-Jabbar isn't the only graduate of that illustrious school. Yes, fans, if racquetball is to come into its own in the next decade, the public court is definitely the way to go.

At the IRA, Executive Director St. Onge says that organization will be making a "national push" for municipal courts over the next few years. The association has already begun moves in this direction through its sponsorship of racquetball tournaments played on outdoor, 3-wall courts, a model which could easily be adopted for future public courts. And a handful of municipal courts have sprung up in California, Florida and Alabama.

But the odds against public racquetball courts are steep, mainly because of the twin bugaboos of publicly-funded recreation: priorities and money. In today's and probably tomorrow's world of inflation and tight-listed municipal budgets, racquetball generally falls far down the list of priorities when it comes to allocating limited public funds. In the words of one big-city recreation planner, "Most public departments react to public demand. And so far, we just haven't had any push to build racquetball courts in the public sector."

In spite of all the nay-sayers and gloomy economic forecasters, there is, right now, $68,000,000 worth of matching federal and local funds for athletics available. All racquetball wants is its share (98.2% should do nicely.)

If you'd like to see a public racquetball court in your neighborhood, then, first you'll have to sell the idea to reluctant city fathers. Consider these arguments. For starters, point out to the powers that be that racquetball courts are more efficient than say, tennis courts, since you can place up to five racquetball courts within the space of one tennis court. That means more people served per dollar spent. Racquetball courts are also fairly simple to construct; all that's required are a few walls and even one wall will do in a pinch. Your most persuasive argument, though, is probably a few years hence. By that time, if the sport continues to grow at its current rate, there should be a lot more racquetball players around. And numbers mean clout. When hordes of angry players, racquets in hand, begin showing up at recreation planning meetings, public racquetball courts are

brighter, bouncier ball.

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Just send a check or money order along with your name and address to Advertising Dept., AMF Voit, at the address below.

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November 29-December 3rd
Greater Milwaukee Country Championship Singles *
Milwaukee Athletic Club
Tournament Director: Tom Radai
2610 S. 51st St.
Milwaukee, WI 53219
414-321-0188

December 6-10
Greater Milwaukee Area Singles *
Milwaukee Athletic Club
758 N. Broadway
Tournament Director: Tom Radai
414-321-0188

December 8-10
2nd Annual Western *
New England Open
Bousquet Racquet Club
Pittsfield, MA
Tournament Director: Mike Meyer
413-442-2546

December 15-17
I.R.A. Maine Closed Doubles Only *
Hillsdale Racquetball & Health Club
South Paris, ME
Contact: Bruce Lewis
33 Bow St.
Freeport, ME 04032

January 26-28
Long Island Open
Tournament Director: Allen Seitelman
Contact: Gordon Ira
Maine Open
777 American Express Way
Freeport, ME 04032

February 4-5
Lawton Senior II Masters Tournament *
Lawton, OK
Contact: Dick Hoffman or Jean Lehr
Oklahoma City, OK
405-843-9741

February 9-11
New Hampshire Open *
Off the Wall Racquet Club
596 W. Hollis St.
Nashua, NH 03060
Tournament Director: Ina Ivarson
Snowfest Racquetball Tournament *
August YMCA
Contact: Bruce Lewis
39 Bow St.
Freeport, ME 04032

February 16-18
Connecticut Open *
c/o Phil Panarella
Box 259
New Britain, CT 06050

February 23-25
Woman 70 *
Boston Tennis Club
Tournament Director: Ina Ivarson
7th Annual Cowboy Open *
Oklahoma State University

March 2-4
International Racquetball Association State Championships *
Contact State Directors in each state
Sites for State Championships
Alaska State *
Racquetball Fairbanks
Front & Eagle Streets
P.O. Box 73169
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707
C/o Marvin Andrenes
907-452-5303

March 23-25
Mid Atlantic Masters Invitational *
Racquettime, Inc.
Senior Invitational
Monroeville Racquet Club
4314 Old William Penn Highway
Monroeville, PA 15116
Contact: Gary Martin
New York Open I.R.A. State Championships *
Tournament Director: Allen Seitelman
Winning Walls Racquetball
Porchester, NY
516-379-0043

March 29-30
International I.R.A. 3-Wall Championships *
Tournament Director: Fred White
777 American Express Way
St. Lauderdale, FL 33337
305-473-3912

March 30-April 1
Maine Open - I.R.A. *
Mall Racquetball Club
S. Portland
Downeast Court Club
Falmouth, ME
Contact: Bruce Lewis
39 Bow St.
Freeport, ME

April 20-22
International Racquetball Association Regions *
Contact the Regional Commissioner in each Region
Southern Regional *
Court House I
Contact: Jim Cullen
1990 Dek Ind. Blvd.
Marietta, Ga

Mid Atlantic Regional *
Capital Courts
Contact: Ed Remen
P.O. Box 218
Sterling, VA 22170
703-430-0666

Northwest Regional *
Contact: Pat Whitehill
Eastern Washington University
Cheney, WA 99004
509-359-7069

Southwest Regional *
University of Texas at Arlington
Parkway

November 30-December 3rd
Manhattan Athletic Racquetball Asso.
Manhattan Athletic Club for Men
3216 N. W. 121
Oklahoma City, OK 73120

Penn State 7th Annual Invitational
Doubles Championships *
The Racquet Club
Monroeville, PA
Contact: Charlie Grapes
O/W. W. Patterson
830 Brocket Hills ide Racquetball & Health Club
South Portland, ME
830 Brocket Hills ide Racquetball & Health Club
830 Brocket Hills ide Racquetball & Health Club
South Portland, ME

December 1-3
Masters Double Invitational *
Contact: Charlie Jackson
W. 1007 Francis
Spokane, WA 99208
509-326-6300

Maine Closed
Mall Racquetball Club
South Portland

New Hampshire, Closed
Manchester Court Club
Manchester, NH

4th Annual Florida State 4-Wall Outdoor Racquetball Championship *
Sarasota YMCA
1075 S. Euclid Ave.
Sarasota, FL
Contact: John Hutt, 813-955-8194

December 6-10
Greater Milwaukee Area Singles *
Milwaukee Athletic Club
758 N. Broadway
Tournament Director: Tom Radai
414-321-0188

December 8-10
2nd Annual Western *
New England Open
Bousquet Racquet Club
Pittsfield, MA
Tournament Director: Mike Meyer
413-442-2546

December 15-17
I.R.A. Maine Closed Doubles Only *
Hillsdale Racquetball & Health Club
South Paris, ME
Contact: Bruce Lewis
33 Bow St.
Freeport, ME 04032

Wisconsin State Doubles *
Bridge Court
Neenah, Wisconsin
Tournament Director: Tom Radai
414-321-0188

January 5-7
Hemophilia Foundation Benefit Racquetball *
Supreme Courts
Tournament Director: Jim Vining
O/U Union Planters Bank
Memphis, TN
901-523-6000

January 12-14
AMF Volt / Datsun Racquetball Classic
National Playoffs for all
Tournament finalists
Superior Court
Las Vegas, NV
213-276-2018

New Hampshire State Racquetball Championships Closed Singles and Doubles *
Off the Wall Racquet Club
596 W. Hollis St.
Nashua, NH 03060
Tournament Director: Ina Ivarson

February 16-18
Connecticut Open *
c/o Phil Panarella
Box 259
New Britain, CT 06050

February 23-25
Woman 70 *
Boston Tennis Club
Tournament Director: Ina Ivarson
8th Annual Cowboy Open *
Oklahoma State University

March 2-4
International Racquetball Association State Championships *
Contact State Directors in each state
Sites for State Championships
Alaska State *
Racquetball Fairbanks
Front & Eagle Streets
P.O. Box 73169
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707
C/o Marvin Andrenes
907-452-5303

March 23-25
Mid Atlantic Masters Invitational *
Racquettime, Inc.
Senior Invitational
Monroeville Racquet Club
4314 Old William Penn Highway
Monroeville, PA 15116
Contact: Gary Martin
New York Open I.R.A. State Championships *
Tournament Director: Allen Seitelman
Winning Walls Racquetball
Porchester, NY
516-379-0043

March 29-30
International I.R.A. 3-Wall Championships *
Tournament Director: Fred White
777 American Express Way
St. Lauderdale, FL 33337
305-473-3912

March 30-April 1
Maine Open - I.R.A. *
Mall Racquetball Club
S. Portland
Downeast Court Club
Falmouth, ME
Contact: Bruce Lewis
39 Bow St.
Freeport, ME

April 20-22
International Racquetball Association Regions *
Contact the Regional Commissioner in each Region
Southern Regional *
Court House I
Contact: Jim Cullen
1990 Dek Ind. Blvd.
Marietta, Ga

Mid Atlantic Regional *
Capital Courts
Contact: Ed Remen
P.O. Box 218
Sterling, VA 22170
703-430-0666

Northwest Regional *
Contact: Pat Whitehill
Eastern Washington University
Cheney, WA 99004
509-359-7069

Southwest Regional *
University of Texas at Arlington
Parkway
5th Annual New England Military Championships
Ft. Devens, MA
Tournament Director: Buck Brumble

**December 5-10**
Roadrunner Schlitz Light®
Metro State College
Tournament Director: Bob Klass
15502 E. Oberlin Pl.
Aurora, CO 80013
303-629-2970

119 Colvin Center
Stillwater, OK 74074
Tournament Director: Dorothy Searcy
405-624-7405
I.R.A. Maine Closed®
all events other than doubles
Andy Valley Racquetball Club
Lewiston, ME
Contact: Bruce Lewis
39 Bow St.
Freeport, ME 04032

Fitness Clinic®
Northwest Region
Pacific Lutheran University
Tacoma, WA
Masters Singles Invitational®
Jacksonville Racquet Club
6551 Crestline Dr.
Jacksonville, Fl. 32211
904-724-6994
Tournament Director: Gordon Ira
February 26-March 4
International Racquetball Week

519 Warwood Ave.
Wheeling, W. VA 26003
304-277-3640
March 16-18
Intercollegiate I.R.A. Championship®
to be held at Penn State University
Tournament Director: Larry Liles
Memphis State University
901-454-2805
Bay State Open®
Racquetball Five-O
Framingham, MA
Tournament Director: Leo Fonseca
617-584-1182
February 26-March 4
International Racquetball Week

Delaware I.R.A. State Championships®
Tournament Director: Willie Wang
Brynmar Racquetball Club
Marsh Road-Brynmar Shopping Center
Wilmington, Del.

March 16-18

Intercolllegiate I.R.A. Championship®
to be held at Penn State University
Tournament Director: Larry Liles
Memphis State University
901-454-2805
Bay State Open®
Racquetball Five-O
Framingham, MA
Tournament Director: Leo Fonseca
617-584-1182
February 26-March 4
International Racquetball Week

May 24-28
International Racquetball Association World Amateur Singles Championships®
Supreme Courts
3315 Spring Mountain Rd.
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102
Contact: Luke St. Onge
I.R.A. Executive Director
901-761-1172

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to make the sport more palatable for this market. One idea that has surfaced involves devising a "slower" ball, one that would make it easier for television cameras to follow the action (balls now zip about the court at speeds up to 142 miles an hour) and also prevent a few players from dominating play with their power serves (wipe-outs make boring TV viewing). Along those lines, Gee suggests spacing out the time between points to allow slow-motion replay or analysis. "The way it is now," he says, "by the time you do a replay you've already missed the next point." The long-awaited development of so-called "white glass" walls, which seem white to players on the inside but remain transparent when viewed from the outside, could also improve racquetball's chances in the television market. The glass is designed to make the game visible to spectators and, of course, television cameras without hindering players' visibility in the process. The NRC has already announced tentative plans to build a portable court using such glass. When (if) racquetball becomes an Olympic event, television coverage will come automatically, at least during the games. Awaiting President Carter's signature is a bill passed by Congress which calls for amateur racquetball to be governed by the U.S. Olympic Committee. Which means television exposure, which means huge audiences, which means more racquetball players.

The upshot of all this is that television coverage, like so much else in racquetball's future, largely depends on the sport's continued growth and development. More players mean a larger potential television audience, a prospect bound to bring joy to the hearts of TV moguls and advertisers. And if the game can make the kinds of accommodation to television that other sports have made, notably basketball's 24-second rule and the tie-breaker in tennis, the day could come when racquetball has its own version of a nationally televised Wimbledon or Masters tournament.

A longshot? Maybe, but apparently investors don't think so. From little old ladies with War Bonds to heavies like Time, Inc., investors are flocking to the racquetball business, and racquetball seminars are quickly becoming the latest "in" thing. (Just check out some of the "investment opportunity" ads in this magazine.) That's why bet makers and people in the know rate racquetball so highly. It has the numbers, a proven track record of growth and plenty of capital investments to finance more growth. Even Jimmy the Greek can't give better odds than that.

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Winning Isn't Anything

... when you play a loser

I'd lost track of Charlie until he joined the same racquetball club I belong to. I knew Charlie when we were kids; every neighborhood has a Charlie. He's the one who won all your blue steelties, even if he had to cheat, extorted your lunch money, and gave you the best shinier anybody ever had for beating him in a spelling bee. He's the one who, when he didn't get his own way, really did take his ball and go home. Charlie has always been a poor loser, but then he's always been a poor winner, too. He gloats, he smirks, he brags. But he's worst when he loses.

I played Charlie the other day for "old times' sake"—and won. Good ol' Charlie is still a bad loser, but he has learned subtlety. Instead of breaking his racquet against the wall—or my head—he described in detail the headache he'd had for the previous 48 hours.

Since then, I've always been "busy" when Charlie asks for a rematch; every match is a grudge match for Charlie. But I've watched him lose to other members of the club and his techniques for losing are amazing and infinite. And I'm willing to bet that every club has its own Charlie.

Dan Brickman, a man of Hoganesque proportions, beat Charlie 21-13, 21-7. Charlie could have tried his usual ankle sprain or attack of acute appendicitis, but this time he was really creative. He left a crutch, an eyepatch, and a bottle of Kaopectate on top of his gym bag for all to see. That's one thing about Charlie: he plans ahead.

Charlie has also lost to some players who are in his league. His favorite way of taking the sting out of defeat is to act like he's won. He glad-hands his opponent, grins from ear to ear like he's just beaten the socks off his nemesis, and waves to the gallery graciously as if acknowledging their adulation. And the gallery buys it. Many times they think he's won because he acts like it.

Sometimes, though, he waives these "courtesies" and he's so quick to serve in the next game or to get into position to return serve that many in the gallery don't realize a new match is underway. Often he can get several points ahead because his opponent is so flustered.

Every once in a while, Charlie wins. Because he cheats. Marty Adams had Charlie 17-9 when all of a sudden Charlie couldn't tell one bounce from two. There for a while he couldn't remember the score, but when he did, there was no doubt in his mind that he was ahead. Short serves made him nearsighted. Marty was a saint. He smiled at Charlie without a trace of irony or rancor and never said a word to anyone about how he'd lost. The gallery has put him up for canonization. I did hear, however, that Charlie found a pin-skewered voodoo doll in his locker.

Charlie really waxes creative in the lockerroom. If you didn't know better, you'd think he hadn't even played, much less lost. He keeps an iron grip on the conversation; any hint that his opponent wants to discuss the game and he launches into a plethora of praise for the guy's warm-up suit, the design on his T-shirt, the cut of his shorts. He pays homage to the strips on the guy's socks and the laces on his sneakers. He can keep this up until either enough time has elapsed so that the outcome of someone else's match is the center of attention or the crowd disperses out of sheer boredom.

He also points out his defective equipment. He keeps a broken racquet, a pair of open-toed sneakers, and a palmless glove handy just for this circumstance. He casually mentions his sinus trouble, his jammed thumb, and his double vision. Before long, his audience has melted away.

For Charlie, creative losing is a matter of feint and finesse, of style and savoir faire. I hear he's writing a book on sportsmanship. He'll probably make a million dollars.

I just wish he'd take his ball and go home.

By D.C. Lantz and Kelly Stark
SINGLES,
DOUBLES, TOILS,
AND TROUBLES
BREWING UP A WINNER AT MEMPHIS STATE • BY TOM CARLSON
When it comes to university financing, some sports get it, and others don't. Football, for instance, gets it. It gets money for equipment, for recruiting, for travel, for scholarships—a cup brimming with money from a variety of university sources. But when the cup is passed to sports like racquetball, there's little left but the dregs. Indeed, at many colleges, racquetball gets no financial support at all.

Fortunately, many racquetball coaches handle the problems of financing as deftly as they handle a wicked corner kill. They are keenly aware that many college administrators still think of racquetball as some glorified gym requirement, played in a walk-in closet with a sawed-off tennis racquet. This doesn't mean that racquetball coaches are always successful fund-raisers; it only means that they are able to accept available funds graciously, politely ask for more, at the same time, keep their teams actively playing.

Some coaches say that not having money is the finest condition for athletics—that the influence of money can ruin the athlete and kill the sport. In racquetball, unlike more commercial sports, the athlete is playing for the unadulterated love of the game. Although he's often forced to buy his own equipment, pay for his own lunches, and remain unknown to clusters of fans, he's still willing to sidestep the limelight, strap on a racquet and lock himself in the game's twenty-by-forty-foot cubicle.

But the really good news is that racquetball is growing so fast that it will soon receive fitting recognition among university administrators. Ten years ago there were fewer than 50,000 people playing the game. There were precious few courts being built, and there was no tournament money up for grabs. By 1973, participation had more than tripled, and the building boom was on.

By 1977, over 600 court clubs had been built around the country, and more than five million people had been introduced to terms like corner kill, ceiling ball, and plum.

Farrah Fawcett-Majors, O.J. Simpson, and Robert Conrad were seen with gloves and racquets. Leach Industries, Seamco, and others were now sponsoring classy pro tours and purses were growing. And just recently the Congress passed the Amateur Athletic Act as part of a larger Public Funding bill. This legislation, awaiting Jimmy Carter's signature, would place all amateur athletics under the aegis of the U.S. Olympic Committee. The impact on racquetball could be dramatic. It paves the way for coherent organization on the national level, for standardization, and for the future elevation of racquetball from its current club status to recognition as a major sport, and perhaps ultimately as an Olympic event.

A good example of a team that has demanded recognition on and off the courts is to be found at Memphis State University in Tennessee. Their story is one of a closely-knit group of athletes, led by a coach whose energy seems boundless and whose shrewdness would scare a Mississippi mule trader.

Thirty-one-year-old Larry Liles has coached the team for four years, bringing home three first-place national trophies in that time. Last year the team won over sixty trophies overall. With all that success, one might suspect, the team could expect some substantial backing from the university. But it hasn't happened.

"Our budget hasn't changed since I've been coach," Liles laments. "We get about $3,200 a year from the school, and that's got to cover everything—travel, equipment, insurance, meals, telephone—everything." Compared with the almost one million dollar tab for the Memphis State football program, the racquetball budget resembles Jimmy Carter's favorite crop.

As in other universities, the financial woes of Memphis State's racquetball program begin with its position in the university budget structure. Racquetball is considered an extramural or "club" sport, and as such, does not operate under the General Athletic Fund of the University. Any monies from the private sector or from the state which are earmarked for University Athletics are placed in the General Athletic Fund, and are disbursed primarily to major sports like football, basketball, baseball, and track. Funding for extramural activities like racquetball, handball, volleyball, weightlifting, karate, and so on comes from a more austere corner of the university pocketbook. The budget designation in the printout might change from school to school (it's called Campus Recreation at Memphis State), but what doesn't change is the mighty thin soup that is served up to some robust club sports like racquetball. It's a diet geared strictly to maintenance rather than development. And in these days of the inflating dollar and tight money, many of these maintenance budgets have become memories.

Larry Liles is not about to sit back and count his ribs. It's his hunch that before too long racquetball is going to grow into a major collegiate sport, and he's already begun the lobbying necessary to place racquetball into the General Athletic Fund. He wants a bigger slice of the pie, and to get it, he's already gone a number of times to the athletic director and the president to plead his case. "They've all said great, sounds good," he notes, "but their next question is how much revenue can you generate?" Certainly that's a problem even for a successful program like Memphis State's, but all Liles wants is a chance. "I asked them to put us in the athletic budget for two years, just to let us see if we could cut it. If we couldn't, we would get back out." But administrators tend to be more
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34 Racquetball
most schools in developing its program. People got involved, players ripened. A tradition began to grow.

And it had rich soil to grow in. Long before the university organized its team, Memphis had begun to develop a racquetball cult. Over twenty years ago, a group of prominent families began playing racquetball. They built their own courts and spread the gospel. And around 1972, just as the university’s racquetball program was getting off the ground, two of the “founding fathers,” Dewitt Shy, former president of the IRA, and the late Smitty Schippers, a nationally known player in his own right, formed the Memphis Racquetball Association. Its purpose was to promote the development of racquetball in the city. Six years later, its success is highly visible. Today Memphis has two large public complexes devoted exclusively to racquetball, another under construction, and numerous courts as part of YMCA’s, community centers, and tennis and golf clubs.

One of the major beneficiaries of this community interest has been the Memphis State Program. "These people send us their kids, and give us their support in the form of equipment, money, trophies, and organizational skill for our local tournaments," says Liles. Yet such support can’t be taken for granted. Liles is on the phone almost more than he’s on the courts. And it’s no accident that the Memphis Racquetball Association is one of the biggest supporters of the Memphis State team. The coach has been active in the association for a long time, having served as vice-president, and this year, as treasurer. "Now I can write my own checks," says Liles with a twinkle in his eye.

Liles is quick to point out that he’s not a one man show, however. "Our team holds clinics throughout the city, catering to veterans as well as the younger players. They like to do it, and they’re good at it. It creates publicity and promotes good will." Give and ye shall receive. Even the Memphis City government recently got into the act (a few enthusiasts were found on the city council), and declared an official Memphis State Racquetball Day. Hustle and ye shall prosper.

Such recognition is sweet icing, but the cake beneath is more important. Its color is cash green and a good deal of it comes from the community. Without it, Liles notes, Memphis State wouldn’t be national champions. The name of the game is tournament experience, and to get it, you’ve got to travel. Tournaments are where winners win and where winners are made. The university gives the team about $1,300 in travel money, which can take them to about five or six tournaments—probably around the average number for most teams.

Yet Memphis State is on the move a good deal more than that. "Were the travelingest team in the country," says Liles. "Last year we went to over twenty tournaments and even to some of the pro stops on the tour. You can’t beat that for experience. And we spent almost $7,000 in the process." How did it do? Liles’ answer resembles that of the unemployed woman who was asked how she managed to drive a Cadillac, wear mink coats, and own a penthouse in Las Vegas. "Believe me, it’s not easy." The truth, of course, is hard-earned community support.

Because Larry Liles is a hybrid—part hustler, part public relations and front man, and part certified public accountant—it’s easy to overlook the fact that he’s a darn good coach. Through a rigorous conditioning program and structured practice sessions, he gets the most from his athletes. The David Fleetwoods, the John and Keith Dunlops, and the Steve Smiths will attest to that. And perhaps more difficult, he welds disparate personalities into a cohesive unit. Evidently it shows on the tour. "You can tell its Memphis State," says David Fournier of Auburn; "they’re always pulling for each other from the back wall or behind the glass, and you always see Larry cheering and coaching. It’s pretty impressive—and inspiring." It also helps recruiting. Liles talks to junior players in his spare tournament moments, and, as he observes, "they always know who we are."

It’s inaccurate to intone solemnly that a certain sport or a certain team has arrived. In college sports departures are all too sudden and unexpected. And with racquetball, especially, the problems that remain even for the current national champions make any announcement of team “arrival” totally premature. Yet you can’t help but get the sneaking suspicion that with Larry Liles directing the show, Memphis State will not close down off-Broadway anytime soon.

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Championships Runner-Up

Pete Wright, Texas Christian U.
Steve Smith, Memphis State
Brad Walker, Texas
Steve Bull, Montana

Runners-Up

Helmut Braun-Chuck McCollon
Emile Catignani-Mark Thomas, TN
Charlie Rich-Huss, IL
Jeff Wood-Bill Cook, Iowa State
Steve Smith, Memphis State

Runners-Up

Janice Segall, Texas
Annette Hughes, Lake Forest

Runners-Up

Janet Marshall, Memphis State
Steve Ira, Memphis State
Steve Bull, Montana

Runners-Up

Ann Bledsoe-Meg Hooper, Auburn
Tennessee-Missouri (tie)
Memphis State
Memphis State
Memphis State
Memphis State
Texas

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Racquetball 35
It was still dark outside, but Joe Theismans day had already begun. He slowly pulled on sweat clothes, stumbled out into the gray Washington dawn, and began his morning ritual—running.

The first mile or so wasn’t usually too bad—shocking cold in March, muggy heat in July—it woke him up, anyway. After two miles, though, Joe’s mind was somewhere else. He really didn’t like running very much. Not that it was hard (not half as hard as escaping a safety blitz on a Sunday afternoon), it was just so boring. By the fourth mile or so, Theismans usually wished he was somewhere else.

Why the boredom? Joe Theismans loves to compete. In his college days as a standout quarterback at Notre Dame, he faced tough opponents every weekend. He knew what it felt like to drill a touchdown pass into the end zone and watch the defense crumble. As starting signal-caller for the Washington Redskins, hes still throwing touchdowns, and still winning.

In the off-season, however, Theismans had trouble satisfying this competitive urge; Joe wanted an opponent. He felt that running is monotonous and there’s no one even to talk to. Tennis is hard to learn. Basketball is hard on ankles, knees, and fingers.

Then he tried racquetball. It was perfect. Competition, exercise, even fun—it had everything he needed. His interest in the sport led him to enter the Coors “All-Pro” Racquetball Tournament in Las Vegas, a tournament for pros from the traditional sports who also played racquetball. Theismans been playing now for a couple of years and, not surprisingly, he made it to the quarterfinals of the Coors tournament. But, in the quarterfinal round, Joe’s game-plan hit a snag. He might be known for his cool determination on the football field, but coming off the racquetball court after the first game of the best-two-of-three match, Theisman was just plain frustrated.

“This guy just doesn’t sweat,” Theismans complained to some of the spectators as he rested between games. The “guy” was Randy Vataha, former wide-receiver for the New England Patriots. Vataha had just won the first game 21-18. “How can you beat a guy who doesn’t sweat?” Theisman repeated. He had gone through six shirts already while Vataha looked bone dry. He remained cool as he drilled the last point past Theismans and won the match 21-17. “After the first game, I felt like dousing him with Gatorade,” Joe laughed as they walked off the court. He may have had losing, but the match had been a blast.

To see football stars like Theisman and Vataha competing in America’s fastest-growing sport is no longer unusual. More and more pros from football, baseball, hockey—even golf and water-skiing—are discovering that racquetball is tops as an off-season conditioning sport.

Running has been the traditional method of conditioning for more athletes and is still the most widely practiced. Players from all sports take to the cross-country tracks, park trails, and roadsides as soon as the Super Bowl, the World Series, or the NBA championships end their regular seasons. Others have tried tennis, swimming, and even volleyball as a means of staying in shape, of keeping their reflexes sharp, and thus prolonging their professional careers.

But now, many of these athletes are finding that racquetball is better than the more traditional forms of off-season activities such as running, swimming, or calisthenics. Most, like Theismans, discover the advantages with their first game. First of all, its competitive. Pro athletes make it to the big leagues by out-hitting, out-running and out-muscling the competition. They love to go head-to-head in the off-season, too.

Another plus is that even rank beginners can get the basics of the sport down pretty quickly. Unlike tennis, racquetball doesn’t take several years to learn. And you don’t have to get a bunch of guys together to play, as in basketball, volleyball, or soccer.

The Coors tournament has been an excellent indicator of the sports newfound popularity with the pros. The tournament is actually a series of four competitions held during 1978 in Las Vegas. The first round, in January, pitted baseball stars from the National and American Leagues. The second round, in March, was for NFL players, while July’s round saw NBA and NHL standouts competing. The final round will be held in November and will match retired athletes from all pro sports with players from the individual sports such as golf, tennis, and even waterskiing. Each round produces two “semi-finalists,” and these eight players will meet in January of next year to determine who’s best among the pros in “off-season
racketball.'"

Jim Flood, tournament director, says the response to the tournament has been greater than he ever expected. "We had two hundred paid entries from the NFL alone!" He seems to disbelieve his own words. "Two hundred!" he repeats. "Unfortunately, we could only take 43 because we just didn’t have the time or space for anymore in that segment of the tournament. But that should tell you something about the popularity of racquetball in the NFL.

"I think the most interesting thing about the competition so far is that the players in their 30s are doing better than the younger guys. Only one of the six semi-finalists we’ve got so far is under thirty. And he’s 28. Everybody else is 33 or older."

Comments from some of the participants in the Coors tournament reveal the different benefits the players feel they derive from playing racquetball. Theisman, for example, is a pinpoint passer in the NFL and he likes what racquetball has done for his eye-hand coordination. But racquetball is more than that, too. "There isn’t a greater conditioning sport as far as I’m concerned," says Theisman. "My agility, quickness, reaction time, endurance—just about everything I need in football—have all improved since I started playing. But it’s the competitive aspect that I like the most. When you get in there, you’re playing against another person."

Theisman estimates that 35 to 45 Redskins play regularly, including Head Coach Jack Pardee. And Bubba Tyer, the Redskins head trainer, has found that it can be an effective tool in building confidence as well as muscles. "I deal with a lot of players who’ve been injured or operated on," he says. "The problem is getting them to believe that their leg or shoulder or ankle or whatever is going to work when they take the cast off. We put them out on the racquetball court after they’ve gotten most of their strength back and it reassures them that they’re going to be able to perform again."

Swift quarterbacks like Theisman aren’t the only football players who are now racquetball enthusiasts, however. In fact, one of the most feared middle­­line backers in the game’s history, Atlanta Falcon great Tommy Nobis, has taken up the sport.

Nobis is retired now, but when he was at his best, quarterbacks had nightmares about him. He was All-American in college and All-Pro in the NFL; it was easy to envision Nobis swarming over offensive lines and eating backfields alive. But since his retirement in 1976 he’s been gobbling up his opponents on the racquetball court instead. He now serves as executive director of "The Complex," a racquetball and physical fitness center built by the Falcon ownership for use by the football players and members of the general public alike.

Nobis picked the game up quick and he likes that aspect of racquetball. "Even an average athlete can play for the first time and by the end of the game, he’s really connecting with the ball. It gives everyone a chance to make a decent game of it while getting a good workout."

Pro basketball players are also discovering the virtues of racquetball as an off-season sport. One of the most recent enthusiasts is top NBA guard, Rick Barry. Barry led his Golden State Warriors into the playoffs several times and he was snapped up by the Houston Rockets for a healthy sum when he became a free-agent last year. "I was sick about not finding out about racquetball sooner," he says of his first encounter with the sport last year. "It’s such a perfect sport for basketball. I used to play a lot of tennis in the off-season, but racquetball is so much better. You can run more for one thing, and average players can keep the ball in play so much longer. Nothing’s worse than chasing missed shots all over the place like you do in tennis. Racquetball’s just more fun and it gives you a better workout, too."

Barry made it to the quarterfinals in the Coors tournament despite the fact that he’d only been playing a few months. But he doesn’t seem too concerned about not reaching the finals. "I wouldn’t be able to concentrate anyway," he laughs. "We’ll be heading for the basketball playoffs by then."

One of those responsible for Barry’s interest in racquetball is Rockets coach Tom Nissalke, who began playing in 1970. As a coach, he’s as interested in relaxation as in conditioning. "I make it a point to play three or four times a week during the basketball season. In fact, I really don’t play that much in the off-season. But when I’m coaching, my racquetball matches are as important to me as the basketball practices are to the players. The game helps me get rid of a lot of the tension that builds up during the season. It also gives me the heart­lung exercise I need. People don’t seem..."
to realize it, but you’ve got to be in good physical shape to coach pro basketball.

“It’s helped me keep my weight down, too. I’m 44 and I still weigh 180 or 185, same as I did in high school. I dropped golf for racquetball; I just didn’t have time for both. I’ll play golf when I’m in my 50s or 60s.”

Don Sparks, the head trainer of the New Orleans Jazz, recognizes that boredom keeps a lot of people, including Jazz players, away from their conditioning programs. “Let’s face it,” he says, “the monotony of running turns these guys off. But you run up to the front wall of a racquetball court and back for an hour and you’ll improve your endurance and your agility, something running can’t do by itself. We’re not telling the players not to run, but we’re certainly giving them every encouragement to take up racquetball.”

Baseball players were some of the first pros to discover racquetball. Al Oliver, for instance, starting playing six years ago. Oliver, now with the Texas Rangers, has always been an excellent hitter. It’s routine for him to hit above the .300 mark every year, but his footwork in the field wasn’t always as good as he felt it should be. Then, in 1972, some friends at the downtown Pittsburgh “Y” introduced Oliver to racquetball and his footwork has been improving ever since. Now he plays every day when he’s not swinging a bat.

“I used to play basketball in the offseason,” Oliver recalls. “But there’s such a risk of getting hurt that I was always looking around for something else to play. I discovered that racquetball was a pretty easy game to learn, but it’s a hard game to master. The last two years, I’ve been playing more than ever. It’s definitely improved my jump on the ball in the outfield. I get super jump now, much more than before I started playing racquetball.”

Oliver may say that racquetball is a hard game to master, but he’s doing pretty well. He’s one of the semi-finalists in the Coors tournament and will face Don Kessinger of the Chicago White Sox to determine the finalist from the baseball division.

Kessinger has also been playing since 1972. In baseball, he’s one of the fastest and most durable shortstops in the game and he has only recently been named as the new White Sox player/manager for next year. He also operates Don Kessinger Court Clubs, a company with racquetball facilities in Little Rock and Memphis. “The game’s helped me stay in condition,” says Kessinger, who is 36. “When spring training rolls around each year, I’m usually in better shape than a lot of the younger guys. It’s been really good for my legs; they don’t get nearly as sore as they used too.”

Many who have been following the Coors tournament feel that the winner of the Oliver/Kessinger match will go on to win the entire tournament. They’re both experienced players. Does Kessinger think he can beat Oliver? “I don’t know,” he says, “Al and I haven’t ever played much before, but I know he’s a good player and it’ll be a good match. I’m just looking forward to playing.”

It will be interesting to see who the eventual winner of the tournament is. Will experience surpass youth? Will the agility of a basketball player overcome the strength of a football player? Or will an unknown, a waterskier perhaps, or a golfer, end up on top? That will be decided in January. But regardless of who wins, racquetball will be the real champion. The tremendous response by pro athletes to this tournament, and to racquetball in general, demonstrates that the sport can be both enjoyable recreation and an excellent conditioner, something racquetball fans have known for years.

As far as the Coors tournament goes, you can bet that a few, including Joe Theisman, will be putting their money on Randy Vataha. After all, as Theisman put it, how can you beat a guy who doesn’t sweat?

Racquetball Magazine is currently gathering data about virtually every aspect of the booming racquetball industry—from racquets to wristlets, from construction materials to club openings. We invite anyone wishing information to call or write to

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1535 E. Brooks Rd.
Memphis, Tn. 38116
901-345-8000
On The Rise

Barry Shain of Freehold, New Jersey, has been named the Eastern regional sales manager for Ektelon. Shain, who had been assistant corporate director of sales promotions for Garcia Coporation of Teaneck, New Jersey, since February, will provide liaison between Ektelon and area sales representative firms throughout 20 Eastern states.

Prior to his work for Garcia, Shain rose from the position of athletic buyer for Biddle Purchasing Company in New York City to that of assistant national sales manager in three years. He thus has both sports promotional and regional sales management experience.

"It's going to be my job to coordinate sales efforts between Ektelon and its four area sales representative firms," said Shain, "The East Coast is still relatively virgin territory for racquetball so we will be trying to build up our market as the sport catches on."

Born and educated in New York City, Shain earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from Queens College there.

He is a member of the Eastern Sporting Goods Association and the National Sporting Goods Association.

Moving Up

Gilbert Schmitt has been named director of advertising and promotion of Sports Illustrated Court Clubs, the nation's largest racquetball operation, headquartered in Southfield.

Barbara Diedrich succeeds him as director of corporate training. She was previously assistant director.

Schmitt and Diedrich have conducted the chain's unique Off-the-Wall U. for training of club managers. Schmitt also served as tournament manager for last summer's U.S. Racquetball Association national championships at SI Court Club-Lemontree.

Up & Coming

The rise of racquetball has resulted in a new breed of athlete, the female professional who pursues racquetball not as a hobby, but as a career. One of the newest is Scottsdale, Arizona's Sally Murphy, Ektelon's new pro, who has found that racquetball is a game in which she can apply her broad range of athletic skills without having to overcome artificial barriers, sexual or otherwise.

She first took up the sport in 1975, while earning her bachelor's degree in physical education at the University of Arizona at Tempe. Four months later, she won the first amateur women's tournament she has entered since.

The Arizona State Amateur Women's Singles champion as well as the Southwest Regional Amateur Women's Singles champion, Sally Murphy can also hold her own in the men's divisions.

"I first started playing in the men's brackets about a year and a half ago just for the challenge" she recalls. "So far, I've had one first in Men's C, and two second-place Men's B finishes in the three tournaments I've entered."

Because it is a non-contact sport, male size and strength are less of an advantage in racquetball than in many sports and women have flocked to it.

Racquetball supports burgeoning female as well as male pro tours with a large pool of full-time players. Although the men's tour still dominates, that of the women is rapidly expanding in size, prize money and collective ability.

"This year's two exclusive women's pro stops in Omaha and Philadelphia did a lot for women because all the attention was focused on them alone," says Murphy who has already competed in some pro tournaments.

"So much of the men's play," she says, "is power—serve and shoot—with the same players winning all the time. In women's racquetball, it's anybody's game. The rallies are much longer and a lot more can happen."

Women's and mixed doubles play, she predicts, will really become popular once racquetball television coverage becomes more frequent, making racquetball a true spectator sport.
in American schools. Our program, in cooperation with the American Sports Education Institute, is aimed at two goals: (1) to raise one billion dollars through the development of a national network of booster clubs (Boosters Clubs of America) and, (2) reach 100 million Americans with the message on the important values sports and physical education plays in the educational development of our youth. We are fortunate to have the cooperation of many individuals, manufacturers and dealers in helping us reach our goals and we urge all others to join with us in our much needed program."

Manufacturers, dealers or individuals wishing to receive information regarding this program may contact Fred Engh, Program Director, American Sports Education Institute, 200 Castlewood Drive, North Palm Beach, Florida 33408.

Jokari

Jokari is a paddle ball game played much like racquetball or handball, except that no court is required. The game set comes with two paddles and a ball attached to an anchor block by a 12 foot elastic band. Jokari is scored to 21, and complete rules are included in each game set. The playing area is divided into two sections by an imaginary line at the block. The player hits the ball across the imaginary line. The ball bounces and is returned by the elastic band. Jokari can be played almost anywhere—on any hard, fairly smooth surface about 10 feet by 20 feet.

Jokari is great exercise, as well as being a competitive game. It’s especially good for improving hand-eye coordination and can be played alone for practice as a lead-in to other racquet sports. Jokari is endorsed by the I.R.A.

Pro Shop

Pro Shop Distributors, of Dayton, Ohio is an authorized wholesale distributor for Leach, Omega, Ektelon, Vittert, Dunhill, Seamco, Voit, Saranac, Champion, Sai, and Pro-Tec, as well as various lines of clothing and Wingfield stringing machines.

Thomas E. Murray, who runs Pro Shop, says, "Our inventories are substantial. We are working closely with UPS to provide overnight service in many areas. We can service a large portion of the U.S. in just 48 hours. When you couple our inventory and service capabilities with manufacturers’ prices, clubs can’t afford to buy from someone else." For more information, contact Pro Shop Distributors, 1221 F. Lyons Road, Centerville, Ohio 45459 (513/433-3757).

Red Baron

Omega Sports recently introduced a new racquetball racquet designed for the heavy hitter. Called the "Baron," it sports an eye-catching metallic red finish. The full teardrop headshape provides an extra-large sweet spot for improved hitting accuracy. At 260 grams and 18 1/4" in length, the Baron gives a balanced feeling that players appreciate. The Baron is available in three grip sizes: XS 3 7/8", S 4 1/8", and M 4 3/8". A color-coordinated, raised-leather grip provides the finishing touch to the "red" Baron.

Rainbo Prescription Eyeguard

Want to wear prescription glasses and safety glasses too when you’re on the court? Now you can.

Lloyd Distributors is offering the Rainbo Prescription All-Sport Eyeguard which can be made up in almost any prescription. Lenses are industrial thickness and can be tinted any color before they are bonded to the frame. Wearers say there is no wrap-around distortion.

The frame is designed to be a face protector. It is made of "Lexan," an almost indestructible plastic. Add up the flexible lens, the yielding structure of the frame, and the "giving" bond between them and voila—glasses which both correct and protect your sight.
WINNING POINTS

PASSING SHOT

The importance of returning the serve is quite obvious. If the server can force a weak return of the service, the odds for his winning that point are in his favor.

The server's objective is to force a mistake in the return of service. It is important, therefore, that the returner have an established plan for return. One of the most effective returns of serve is the pass shot.

STRAIGHT PASS SHOT

The straight pass shot rebounds off the front wall returning to the area where you were when you first hit the ball. The pass shot is easily understood as a return of serve. Moving from the ready position to either corner, a pass shot is used to move the server out of the middle of the court. The pass shot should come off the front wall as close to the side wall as possible without touching it. The server must move out of the center court area to cut the pass shot off before it travels by him.

The straight pass shot does not necessarily have to be hit low to be effective. It should be hit low enough so it will not be playable off the back wall. The main concern when hitting the straight pass shot is to avoid all contact with the side wall until the ball has passed your opponent. If your straight pass shot does strike the side wall it will rebound to the center of the court, which will allow for an easy return.

The straight pass can be used at any time during a rally. It is effective whenever your opponent is in the front court area. If your opponent is shaded to the left side and you are on the right side, the straight pass shot along the right side is the perfect choice. Even if your opponent is in the middle of the court, the straight pass shot, if hit correctly, will be effective. (See diagram)

CROSS COURT PASS SHOT

The second pass shot is the cross court pass shot. This shot is also one of the more effective returns of serve. Visualize a drive serve to your backhand near the side wall. As the server jumps back to the "attack" position after the serve, the correct cross court pass shot will be hit so that it angles toward the opposite deep corner after hitting the front wall. This shot will force the server out of the attack position in pursuit of the ball. The cross court pass shot is effective only if hit sharply, yet not high enough to allow the ball to be played off the back wall. (See diagram.)

This shot can be used whenever your opponent is in the front court area. The closer to the front wall your opponent is, the less time he will have to react to the ball as it rebounds off the front wall. Being in the back court area will allow your opponent more time to react to the direction of the cross court pass.

As with the straight pass shot, any contact with the side walls before the the ball has passed your opponent will result in the ball rebounding into the center court area. This will allow your opponent an easy return while you're still in the back court area.

PRACTICE

The best drill for practicing the pass shot requires the help of a friend. The success of the pass shot is determined by the manner in which you hit the ball away from your opponent. It should be hit past him without: 1) hitting the side walls, or 2) rebounding off the back wall high enough to be played. Have your friend stand in the server's area and serve all the varieties of serves so you can practice returning them with a straight pass or a cross court pass. Practicing the basic forehand and backhand will give you the skill needed to hit the desired pass shot.

The intermediate and advanced players can use an advanced approach to practicing this shot by themselves. Standing in the middle of the court, use an overhead stroke to hit the ball to the front wall so it rebounds to either corner of the court. This will resemble a drive or medium lob serve. Move towards the ball and attempt to return it using either of two pass shots just discussed. The key to this drill is control. It is not as important to hit a low shot as it is to hit this shot exactly where you want it.
This is the last of a four-part series of quiz exercises to test your knowledge of racquetball. It is the basis for developing an overall testing instrument for certified referees. It also can be an excellent learning device for anyone interested in playing racquetball and could be incorporated into physical education classes. The quiz was prepared by Al Uher, a special education teacher who took up racquetball five years ago because he was looking for a sport which offered a maximal workout with a minimal amount of time spent. RACQUETBALL Magazine thanks Al for providing the series.

Each of the questions is arranged to correspond to the I.R.A. Official Rules of Racquetball. Choose only one answer per question.

1. ANY BODY CONTACT WITH AN OPPONENT THAT INTERFERES WITH SEEING OR RETURNING THE BALL IS A (AN): a) Dead ball hinder. b) Avoidable hinder. c) Side out. d) Hand out in doubles. e) Still a playable ball.
   
   RULE 4.10 (a3)

   
   RULE 4.10 (a5)

3. ACCORDING TO RULE 4.10 b, AND WHEN A REFEREE IS OFFICIATING, “NO PLAYER IS AUTHORIZED TO CALL A HINDER, EXCEPT”: a) When a player blocks a shot. b) When a player moves into a ball. c) When pushing occurs. d) On the back swing or from accidentally stepping on an opponent's foot. e) When a player fails to move sufficiently to allow opponent a shot.
   
   RULE 4.10 (b)

4. IT IS THE DUTY OF THE SIDE THAT HAS JUST SERVED OR RETURNED THE BALL: a) To serve so the ball is visibly seen coming off the front wall. b) Practice good sportsmanship. c) To play defensively. d) To accept the other player’s judgment on questionable calls. e) To move so that the receiving side may go straight to the ball and is not required to go around an opponent.
   
   RULE 4.10 (c)

5. DEPENDING UPON WHETHER THE OFFENDER WAS SERVING OR RECEIVING, AN AVOIDABLE HINDER RESULTS IN A (AN): a) Out or a point. b) Second serve. c) Time out. d) Dead ball call. e) Point only.
   
   RULE 4.11

6. AN AVOIDABLE HINDER WOULD BE: a) Failure to move. b) Blocking. c) Moving into ball. d) Pushing. e) All of the above.
   
   RULE 4.11 (1-4)

7. DELIBERATE DELAY EXCEEDING TEN SECONDS BY SERVER OR RECEIVER SHALL RESULT IN A (AN): a) Time out. b) Out or point against the offender. c) Serve going over. d) Two point penalty. e) No-serve penalty.
   
   RULE 4.12 (a)

8. DURING A GAME, EACH PLAYER IN SINGLES, OR EACH SIDE IN DOUBLES, EITHER WHILE SERVING OR RECEIVING, MAY REQUEST A “TIME OUT” FOR A TOWEL, WIPING GLASSES, GLOVE CHANGE, OR ADJUSTMENT. EACH TIME OUT SHALL NOT EXCEED: a) 15 seconds. b) 20 seconds. c) 30 seconds. d) 1 minute. e) 2 minutes.
   
   RULE 4.12 (b)

9. NO TIME OUT SHALL BE CHARGED TO A PLAYER WHO IS INJURED DURING PLAY; HOWEVER, THE AMOUNT OF TIME THE INJURED PLAYER IS ALLOWED TO REST WITHOUT BEING PENALIZED IS: a) 5 minutes. b) 10 minutes. c) 15 minutes. d) 20 minutes. e) 30 minutes.
   
   RULE 4.12 (c)

10. THE AMOUNT OF REST TIME ALLOWED BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND GAMES IS: a) 2 minutes. b) 3 minutes. c) 4 minutes. d) 5 minutes. e) 10 minutes.
   
   RULE 4.12 (d)

Answers appear on p. 47. For a complete copy of the quiz, send $1 to Al Uher, P.O. Box 1034, Del Mar, CA 92014.
New Court Club Openings

21st Point
The 21st Point, Inc. will begin construction of its $1.1 million Indianapolis facility by December, with completion scheduled for September 1979. Located adjacent to the Washington Square Mall, the 21st Point Racquetball Club is one of 32 clubs to be in operation by 1981; it is the brainchild of Edward J. DeBartolo, Jr., owner of the San Francisco 49ers.

Each club, contemporary in design, will house 15 championship courts, (including an exhibition glass-walled tournament court with a 250 seat spectator gallery, equipped to handle televised matches), a fully equipped exercise room, steam, sauna and whirlpool baths, a supervised child care center, health food bar, and a complete pro-shop stocked with the latest racquetball-handball equipment and designer apparel.

Monterey Racquetball Club
October saw the opening of the Monterey Racquetball Club, 2560 Garden Road, Monterey, California. Club features include a glass-walled exhibition court, four courts with an observation deck, and four private courts.

Besides playing racquetball, members can work out or warm up on the exercise equipment, join the aerobic exercise classes, relax in the therapy jet spa, or watch an exciting match from the lounge or amphitheater.

Off The Wall
Seacoast racquetball players and soon-to-be racquetball players are following the final stages of construction of Off The Wall Racquet Club’s Portsmouth facility, scheduled to open late November.

The facility will offer the best in facilities for on and off court enjoyment by its members including ten regulation racquetball/handball courts designed for balcony viewing. For exhibitions, one court features a full glass backwall with specially designed seating for viewing all the court action. Spacious, carpeted locker rooms for men and women are complete with private showers, saunas and whirlpools.

The club will also house a comfortable lounge, a pro shop, and a supervised child care area. Instruction, tournaments, leagues, and figure control programs will also be offered by Off The Wall.

The Club is located adjacent to Pic ’N Pay, Plaza 800 Shopping Center in the Malt House, and is easy to reach from surrounding communities—less than two miles from the Portsmouth traffic circle.

Charter Memberships are available for a limited time. Information and Charter Membership Applications may be obtained by calling 603/431-1430 or writing Off The Wall Racquet Club, Albany Street Extension, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

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Upon becoming IRA’s Illinois State Director, Angelo A. Petitti wrote us a long letter. We’d like everyone to share his enthusiasm, so we’re happy to have him speak for himself.

Recently, I was appointed the International Racquetball Association’s Illinois State Director—it is not only a mouthful, it is also a hell of a lot of work. So, to begin my new endeavor, I’ve gone back to look over and reassess the ideals and philosophies of the IRA.

To begin with, and, possibly the most important thing to remember, we should always be open and helpful to all of our fellow racquetball players, not just those who are IRA members. Remember when you were a fledgling on the courts: some guys laughed, but there were always a few seasoned veterans who would help, not scoff. We should always be ready to help the new player. Remember, someday that novice may be your opponent; he may even give you some tips.

How do the new player and the advanced player improve? Well, hopefully a fellow player will help, but everyone can benefit from clinics. Clinics may be one of the most effective ways of enlarging the geographical scope of racquetball. Any group can come to the IRA for help in setting up clinics through clubs, Y’s, and community organizations.

Racquetball needs many things, and one thing all players will agree on is the need for professional officials. We need people who will make proper calls, who will “know” that it was a skip in, and who will not be argued with on a hinder call. How many times have you looked up to see a nervous new player who happened to pull your match, and told him without speaking he had better know what he is doing? And how many times has that stare probably shaken up the well-intentioned ref’s call. Certified and competent officials are a must for the advancement of true competitive play.

But not everyone involved in racquetball is on the courts. There are many people who add knowledge and technical advancement to our sport, some we never even think about: the inventor who perfects a better playing surface, the doctor who builds a better support for our playing shoes, or the engineer who can see how a little change can make a better racquet—the list goes on and on. These people have created breakthrough after breakthrough that enable us to more fully enjoy our sport.

Through the IRA, we can let these people know what we need.

Many books, reviews, and articles are being written today on fitness. Running is in the forefront, with swimming and racquetball right up there. But many people either aren’t into running or they prefer a heated participatory sport. These very same people may turn on to racquetball. It is a sport that can not only help the body, but develop mental agility, too.

Racquetball is not just for the jock. Racquetball is for all people—men, women, and children alike. And there are many places to play; it is not confined to the clubs. The Y’s and the community organizations have played and continue to play an important role in the development of our sport.

The IRA stands and is working for the advancement of true competitive play. But not everyone involved in racquetball is on the courts. There are many people who add knowledge and technical advancement to our sport, some we never even think about: the inventor who perfects a better playing surface, the doctor who builds a better support for our playing shoes, or the engineer who can see how a little change can make a better racquet—the list goes on and on. These people have created breakthrough after breakthrough that enable us to more fully enjoy our sport.

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The IRA stands and is working for many things. Among these is the growth of racquetball not only in the U.S., but in Canada, and now the world. We must be available and willing to lend support and help wherever it is needed. To make racquetball a viable sport world-wide, we must listen to all interested parties. An agency or group who can add an idea must be heard. We are not the final solution, and racquetball will be here even if we are not. If racquetball is to take its place in the sports world arena, everyone must help in its development.

And while all this is going on, there must always be a place to obtain the material resources needed to further the sport in the U.S. and abroad, a place to find literature for the physical education teachers, films for student instruction, foreign writings to see the differences and similarities of our overseas neighbors’ game. That place is the IRA.

One of the most useful resources available for information, ideas, happenings, and answers to the players’ questions today is RACQUETBALL Magazine. It not only tells of new ideas, but acts as a sounding board and clearing house for the advancement and direction of the IRA. Remember, it is your association, and you can and should be heard. It isn’t hard; just write RACQUETBALL.

So, you see, there are many reasons to be a part of an association such as ours. The IRA doesn’t just exist for you or me. It exists for all players who want to be part of the growth and direction of racquetball. That donation you give or the dues you pay may contribute to someone’s future, a person’s physical and mental health, and may even bring happiness to a player who until recently didn’t even know what a racquet looked like.

There is much for every player to think about and work towards. State Directors are nothin more than players who have homework—and my homework is to build an association which stands for much more than a heated match.
## IRA STATE DIRECTORS

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- Enhances concentration.
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Total __________

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11703 Sandman, San Antonio, Texas 78216

Name
Address
City State Zip Code

(Cont. from p. 22)


Finals: Avalos & Maffei over Kimball & Voss, 21-7, 21-17.

Consolation: Atherton & Atherton over Beitsch & Hyjek, 21-17, 21-16.

National Juniors

First Round: K. Kailhlanen, TX, & S. Hawkins, CA, over I. Miller & S. Ginsberg, MD, 21-4, 21-4; D. Simonette, & M. Levy, MD, over N. Monaco & J. Kelley, MD, 21-0, 21-11; M. Buckler & C. Mathewson, PA, bye.

Second Round: Buckler & Mathewson over Simonette & Levy, 21-14, 21-9; Miller & Ginsberg over Monaco & Kelley, 21-0, 21-7; Kailhlanen & Hawkins, bye.

Third Round: Buckler & Mathewson over Monaco & Kelley, 21-4, 21-3; Kailhlanen & Hawkins over Simonette & Levy, 21-1, 21-5; Miller & Ginsberg, bye.

Fourth Round: Kailhlanen & Hawkins over Monaco & Kelley, by forfeit; Buckler & Mathewson over Miller & Ginsberg, 21-9, 21-5; Simonette & Levy, bye.

Fifth Round: Miller & Ginsberg over Simonette & Levy, 21-9, 21-8; Buckler & Mathewson over Kailhlanen & Hawkins, 21-13, 21-12; Monaco & Kelley, bye.

Winners: Buckler & Mathewson over Kailhlanen & Hawkins.

Consolation: Miller & Ginsberg over Simonette & Levy.
**SHORT LINES**

**San Diegan Sets World Racquetball Marathon Record**

San Diego's Mike Maddocks set a new world racquetball marathon record recently and raised $12,600 in the fight against Muscular Dystrophy by playing racquetball for a straight 101 hours 48 minutes 30 seconds.

Maddocks, 20, who trained for six weeks prior to the 4½-day endurance test, earned himself a place in the upcoming Guinness Book of World Records and received the largest amount of Muscular Dystrophy pledges ever collected by a single person in San Diego County.

He lost 10 pounds during the marathon and his feet swelled from size 10½ to size 13½.

"If it was just for a world record, I don't know if I would have kept on," he said later. "But, I kept thinking how lucky I am to be able to play when there are so many kids who can't."

**Ektelon/Natural Light L.A. Open Nets $ For Special Olympics**

Approximately $450 was contributed to the California Special Olympics Foundation as a result of the recently completed Ektelon/Natural Light/Los Angeles Open Racquetball Tournament at the new Racquetball West Court Club.

The five-day tournament brought 450 amateurs and professionals from across the United States and Canada to see Lindsay Myers of Vancouver, British Columbia, beat Mike Yellen (who won $1000) of Southfield, Michigan 21-19, 21-20 in the Men's Professional Singles Finals for a $2,000 first prize.

In the Ladies' Professional Singles Finals, Shannon Wright of Las Vegas, Nevada, defeated Jennifer Harding (who came away with $500) of Portland, Oregon 19-21, 21-10, 11-4 for a $1,000 first prize.

One dollar from each contestant's entry fee was earmarked for the California Special Olympics. John West, the executive director of the California Special Olympics, announced that the money will be used to establish racquetball clinics for the California Special Olympics.

**Intercollegiate Championships**

The 1979 Intercollegiate championships have been awarded to Penn State University. Competition will be held for men and women's teams in the following divisions: A's, B's and Doubles. Championships will be given for men's team, women's team, and overall team championships. Points are awarded for finishing from the quarterfinals on. Eligibility shall be determined under NCAA rules and professionalism shall be interpreted under I.R.A. rules.

Applications for the 6th annual Intercollegiate championships will appear in the Jan/Feb issue of RACQUETBALL Magazine.

For further information contact Intercollegiate commissioner Larry Liles at 901-454-2805 or at 1152 Longgreen, Memphis, TN 38138, or Luke St. Onge, Executive Director of the I.R.A., at 901-761-1172. 5545 Murray, Memphis, TN 38117.

**Answers to quiz on p. 12**

1. a, 2. d, 3. d, 4.e, 5. a, 6 . e, 7.b, 8. c, 9. c, 10. a

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**Answers to quiz on p. 12**

1. a, 2. d, 3. d, 4.e, 5. a, 6 . e, 7.b, 8. c, 9. c, 10. a

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RACQUETBALL welcomes all tournaments to report their results. Please list all rounds of each event. Scorecard will report as many rounds of each tournament as space allows.

**ANNUAL ILLINOIS STATE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION TOURNAMENT**

The Glass Court
Lombard, IL

Men's Open: Bob Deuster over Steve Sulli, 21-10, 21-16.

Women's Open: Glenda Pommierich over Valerie, 18-21, 21-7, 11-0; consolation, Kathy Deal over Roberta Grant, 31-4.


Junior 17 & Under: Mark Wescott over Bob Lawrence, 21-4, 21-8; consolation, Mark Wing over Pat Michaud, forfeiture.

Junior 15 & Under: Jerry Willbur over Tom Linn, 21-5, 21-16; 3rd Lynn Woeck over John Lockhart, forfeiture; consolation, Scott Burgess over Mark Craven, 31-23.

FIRST ANNUAL CALIFORNIA RACQUETBALL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Vista Courthouse
Vista, CA

(Any player in any event reaching the Quarter Final round received 5 points for the club which he/she represented. Semifinalists received 10 points, finalists 20 points and winners 30 points.)

Club Standings: Top Five Clubs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Courtsports, San Diego, CA</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd The Courthouse, Vista, CA</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Racquet Time, San Marcos, CA</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th King's Courts, Westminster, CA</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Santana Courts, Santa Ana, CA</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Women's Open: 1st, Laura Martino, Courtsports, San Diego; 2nd, Darlene Charleston, Racquetball World, Fountain Valley.

Men's C: 1st, Pete Peters, Another Racquet, Encinitas; 2nd, Larry Mendoza, Racquet Time, San Marcos.


Men's B Doubles: 1st, James Schor & Eric Foley, Courtsports, San Diego; 2nd, Steve Paulos & Lee Ellis, Riverside Racquet Club, Riverside.


**MID-SOUTH MEN'S OPEN**

Sporttime Racquet Club
Greensboro, NC


C Singles: Roger Compton, Fayetteville, over Ronald Thompson, Fayetteville, 21-8, 21-12; consolation, Scott Coulter, Havelock, over James Hillwig, Havelock, 31-25.

Master Singles: Richard Lane, Raleigh, over Myron Wyman, Goldsboro, 21-17, 19-21, 11-6; consolation, Bill Fleischman, Greensboro, over Dan Garfinkle, Greensboro, forfeiture.


Senior Doubles: Richard Lane and Jack Hogan, Raleigh, over Norman DeRossset and Jim Buchholz, Jacksonville, 21-2, 21-9; consolation, Mike Mohnihan, Kernersville, and James Dowdell, Greensboro, by bye.

**SECOND ANNUAL DELWARE VALLEY RACQUETBALL LEAGUE**

Fort Washington Racquet Club
Fort Washington, PA

Men's Open Singles: Quarterfinals: Montague over Hevenor, 21-3, 21-7; Clarks over Becker, 21-14, 21-2; Ellis over Brown, 21-10, 21-4; Wang over Brannan, 21-8, 21-11.

Semis: Montague over Clark, 21-21, 21-9, 11-9; Wang over Ellis 21-18, 21-14.
IF IT BOUNCES SEAMCO MAKES IT.

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Finals: Montague over Wang, 21-7, 21-10.
Third Place: Ellis over Clarke; consolation, Pruitt over Johns.

Women's Open Singles: 1st, Kennedy; 2nd, Lantzi; 3rd, Lynn; 4th, Perretti; consolation, Towill.

Men's Open Doubles: 1st, Clark & Ellis; 2nd, Becker & Davis; 3rd, Montague & Brown; 4th, Johns & Alaquar.


Men's B Singles: 1st, Kazubal; 2nd, Mas; 3rd, Church; 4th, Hostetter; consolation, Shea.

Women's B Singles: 1st, Adair; 2nd, Brown; 3rd, MacDonald; 4th, Daughtridge; consolation, Bartisch.

Scorecard

WYLER'S WOMEN'S OPEN
The Court House
Northbrook, Illinois

Open: Glenda Pommerich Young, Chicago, defeated Hope Weisbach, Tempe, Arizona, 13-21, 21-19, 11-6.
B: Pat Klinger, Oak Park, defeated Sue Prisching, Oak Park, 21-19, 20-21, 11-7.
C: Mary Trousdale, Crystal Lake, defeated Mary Andrews, Oak Park, 21-7, 21-10.

FIRST ANNUAL LABOR DAY TOURNAMENT
Racquetball Center of Pensacola
Pensacola, FL

Men's Open: Joe Icaza, Atlanta, over Jim Cullen, Atlanta.

Women's B: Terri Mele, Winter Park, over Evelyn Barnes, Athens.

Men's B: Jerry Wickliffe, Norcross, over

Woody Burkharter, Smyrna.

Women's C: Jean Jarvie, Orlando, over Darlene Prichett, Pensacola.

Men's C: Bill Hernandez, Fort Walton Beach, over Terry Peek, Thomson.

Men's A Doubles: Joe Icaza & Bobby Siegel, Atlanta, over John Parks & Jim Cullen, Atlanta.

Men's B Doubles: Roger Wehrle & Mark Carpenter, Atlanta, over Bill Hernandez & Ed Medellin, Fort Walton Beach.

Men's 35 & over: Roger Wehrle, Marietta, over Mike Mojer, Orlando.

Men's Masters: Don Donaghe, Orlando, over Bill Hewports, Pensacola.

Boy's 17 & Under: Rick Taylor, Orlando, over Lance LaCour, Chalmette.

1ST MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL
Harrisburg Central Branch YMCA
Harrisburg, VA

Open Division: 1st Round: Chmiola over Zamparelli 15-4, 16-14.
Quarter Finals: Krevsky over Chmiola 15-13, 9-15, 11-7; Miller over Granahan 15-12, 15-13; Corsetti over Rodriguez by forfeit; Woolfe over Moskowitz 15-1, 15-3.
Semi Finals: Miller over Krevsky 7-15, 15-10, 11-10; Woolfe over Corsetti 15-3, 15-3.
Finals: Miller over Woolfe 7-21, 21-2, 11-10; Krevsky over Corsetti 14-16, 15-2, 11-9.
Class B: 1st Round: Young, Bye; Howard over Livingston 15-5, 15-6; Wetcher over Stemple 15-6, 15-10; Fleisher over Delaney 15-2, 11-15, 11-3; Long, Bye; Ferencz over James 15-4, 15-7; Hartman over Richwine 15-4, 15-2; Merzanis, Bye; Owen, Bye; Stevens over Freeman 8-15, 15-13, 11-3; Stumpf over Duerr 15-4, 15-14; Powell over Marchant 15-2, 15-9; Dorshimer, Bye; Gilmore over Titley 15-6, 15-2; Spehl over Reaves & Marchant 15-9, 15-5; Overton over Waddell by forfeit.
Quarter Finals: Young over Wetcher 15-5, 15-11; Ferencz over Hartman 15-5, 15-2; Powell over Owen 15-8, 15-10; Dorshimer over Overton 15-2, 15-6.
Semi Finals: Ferencz over Young 15-12, 4-15, 11-3; Powell over Dorshimer 15-6, 15-6.
Finals: Powell over Ferencz; Young over Dorshimer 15-11, 15-11.

Final: Wolfe & Krevsky over Howard & Ferencz.

Consolation: 1st Round: James over Livingston 4-15, 15-10, 11-9; Zamparelli over Richwine by forfeit; Marchant over Reeves 15-1, 15-5; Duerr over Titley 15-14, 8-15, 11-7; Stapleton over Delaney 15-3, 11-5, 11-8.
Quarter Finals: Moskowitz, Bye; Granahan; Bye; Marchant over Merzanis 15-1, 15-2; Freeman, Bye.
Final: Granahan over Marchant.

JACK-IN-THE-BOX Classic
Coligate Men's Pro Am
St. Louis, MO

Steve Strandemo won first place over Dave Pack, Marty Hogan (1978 Champion), Craig McCoy, Richard Wagner, and Jerry Hilecher in the finals. Strandemo's win over Hogan marked the first time in three years that the men's number one player failed to reach the finals of a national racquetball club tournament.

AMF VOIT/PERRIER CLASSIC
San Francisco Bay Club
San Francisco, CA

Men's Open: 1st Steve Strandemo; 2nd Scott Hawkins; 3rd Gary Berberet; 4th John Eberhart; 5th Steven Trent; Steve Dunn; Fielding Snow, Stan Wright.

Women's Open: 1st Karin Walton; 2nd Diane Heims; 3rd Mary Ludwig; 4th Vicki Panzeri; 5th Theresa Nunn, Alicia Moore, Laura Martina, A. Adams.

Men's B: 1st Jerry Henderson; 2nd Richard Benevides; 3rd Brian Laughter; 4th Ernie Charfouros; 5th Denis Lose, Bob Dziedzic, Mike Dziedzic, Terry Huggins.

Women's B: 1st Carolyn Lefford; 2nd Darlene Charlest; 3rd Barbara Smith; 4th Nicki Sniezek; 5th Ann Reading, Joan Johnson, Barb Harris, A. Skinner.

Men's C: 1st Steve Hamilton; 2nd Hiro Sugimura; 3rd John Cochran; 4th Brian Zeiner; 5th Frank Troya, Bill Hannon, Richard Picazo, A. Bertran.

Women's C: 1st Marty Barr; 2nd Jill Sanders; 3rd Amy Rennert; 4th Helen Clurman; 5th Libba Wilkins, Beverly McSwain, Catherine Rossi-Swain, A. LeBlanc.

Men's Senior: 1st Bill Dunn; 2nd Tony Floppachico; 3rd Price Thomas; 4th Stacy Knox; 5th Alistair MacMillan, Mark Wayne, A. Woodson, A. Donati.
REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS
INFORMATION

Region 1: Western Region (California, Utah, Hawaii, Arizona, Nevada)
Region 2: Northwest Region (North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska)
Region 3: Southwest Region (Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas)
Region 4: Midwest Region (Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio)
Region 5: Southern Region (Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, So. Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Kentucky)
Region 6: Mid-Atlantic Region (Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., N. Carolina, Pennsylvania)
Region 7: Northeastern Region (New Jersey, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut, New Hampshire)
Region 8: Europe

Entry fee for each regional tournament is $21.00 for the first event and $9.00 for a second event. Out of this entry fee, $1.00 is returned to the Regional Director for administration of the tournament.

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Singles Championships
May 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 1979

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Events: Men's Open, Women's Open, Women's B's, Men's B's, Men's Seniors, Women's Seniors, Men's Masters, Women's Masters, Men's Golden Masters 55+, 60+, and 65+, Women's Golden Masters 55+, 60+, and 65+
Lodging: Stardust Hotel, $40.00 single or double occupancy. Mini Price Motor Lodge, $22.00 single or double occupancy.
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Application to appear in the March issue of RACQUETBALL Magazine.

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Ektelon has built a racquet around Jerry Hilecher's hard-hitting style of play.

The new Hilecher model features Ektelon's largest hitting surface and sweet spot. The special modified quadriform frame shape and flat-channel extrusion add a whole new dimension in ball response.

The shorter neck helps you control that power and add balance by bringing the racquet face closer to your hand. The frame is Alcoa 7005—32% stronger than the aluminum most manufacturers use. This is one reason the Hilecher carries a one-year frame and ninety-day string warranty.

The new Hilecher... for the power game... from Ektelon.