

OFF THE WALL

A publication of the Utah Racquetball Association

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President's Message

by Jeff Carpenter

Hello, my name is Jeff Carpenter. I recently had the pleasure of being elected to the office of president of the Utah Racquetball Association. I'd like to take a moment of your time and tell you a little about myself and my experience with racquetball and give you some insight on what I will try to accomplish this year.

I would really like to thank Tim Storey and Steve Coray for a job well done, also all the other board members without whose help Tim and Steve could not have done such a good job.

I'm 30 years old, I am married with one child. I've been playing racquetball seriously for about eight years now. I love the game more than any other sport. I've been out of the game for the last three years to obtain my degree in electronics. Now that I have obtained that goal, I plan to become very serious about the game again.

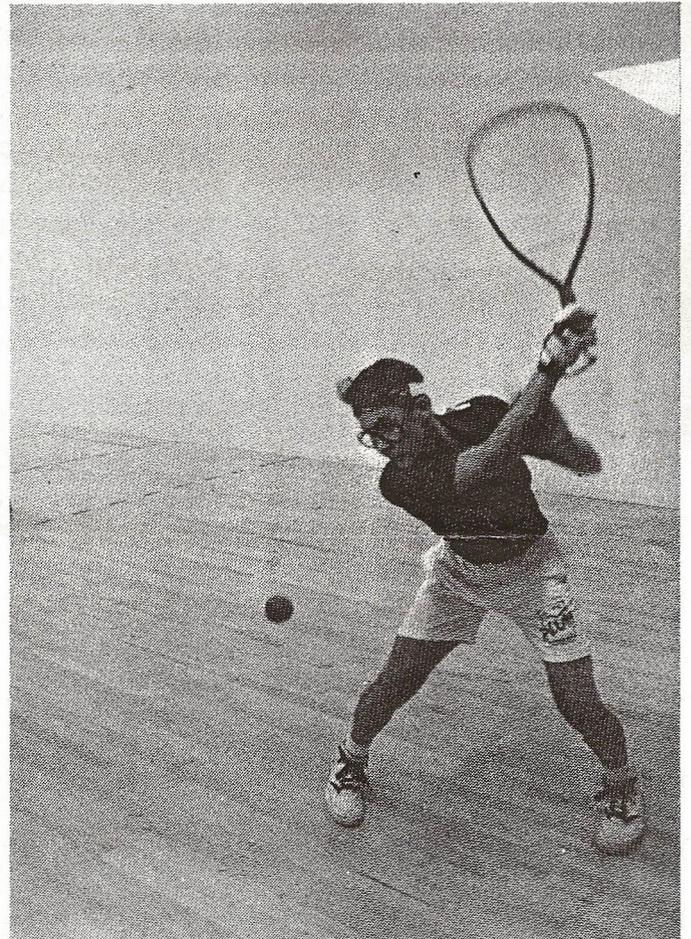
In the forthcoming year I plan to carry on some of the things that started last year. First, to try to standardize all the sanctioned tournaments so all sanctioned events carry the same weight. Second, to promote the women's game. I'd like to see more top-level women players in the state of Utah (work hard, ladies). Third, to keep the junior program strong (thanks, Cindy).

In order to increase Utah's strength in the regional and national events, we must push all categories of players, not just one. I feel that this year can become one of Utah's best years, but we need full participation from all groups.

I hope with the coming year we can get really excited and put Utah on the map in a serious manner. Please help me and support the URA, come out to the tournaments, clinics, leagues, bring family and friends. Put a racquet in someone's hand. Keep a racquet in your hand. Practice, play and win. Let's do it!

Thank you for your time and have a great year.

Jeff Carpenter



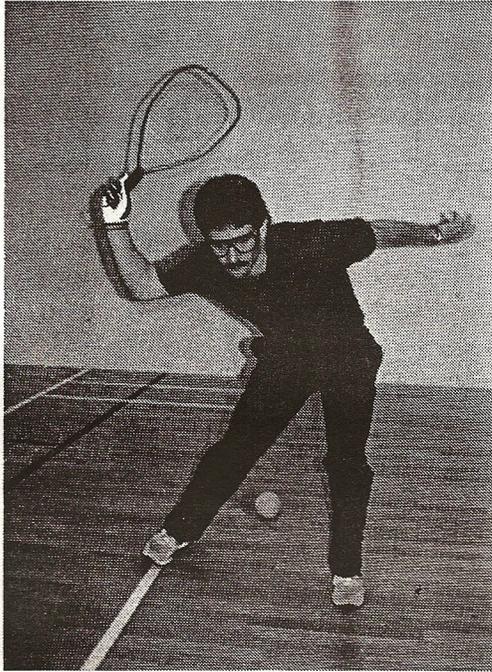
Eric Storey took 2nd in 16+ under singles and 1st in 16+ under doubles with his partner Brent Zimmerman at the Junior Nationals held in Gaighersburg, Maryland. Eric also earned a place on the U.S. National Team. CONGRATULATIONS!

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Tips From Rick

Make that return!



by Rick Strout Racquetball is thought of as a "server's" game. I tend to disagree. Granted, the server is the one scoring and he is also the one directing the rally but still the receiver **can be** the aggressive player! No other time in the game is the man in front court hitting the ball back to me, and no other time is he "stuck" so far forward in the court. Great! He's giving me a super chance to hit a passing shot. I can even drive the ball at him to jam him on his next shot. Now, if he covers his serve (like a good server should), I then will work at hitting a pinch, or wide angle pass. So you see,

by being the receiver, I can see much more of the court and options prevail that would otherwise give me trouble.

Remember that the serve is "pumped up." Odds are that he will over-hit the ball, and it will shoot off the back wall. He will most likely hit his serve to the receiver's backhand side as well. Knowing that, and believing that "I can get to the serve," I have a great opportunity to make a winning shot off the back wall. Don't give the server more credit than he deserves. He most likely won't hit a great number of "ace" unreturnable serves. You'll get your chance. Be ready. And be aggressive as a returner!

What's the Call?

by John Yorkey

1. During a match the referee notices that Player A is wearing protective eyewear but there are no lenses in the frame. What's the call?

- A) Play should be stopped and Player A is declared the loser of the point.
- B) Player A is given a technical foul and charged with a timeout to secure lensed eyewear.
- C) If Player A is over 18 years old there is no penalty.
- D) The referee should forfeit the match.

2. Where is the short line located on the court?

- A) 20 feet from the front wall.
- B) 15 feet from the back wall.
- C) 15 feet from the front wall.
- D) Both A and B.

3. True or false. The racquet, including bumper guard and all solid parts of the handle, may not exceed 21.5 inches in length.

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Answers: 1. B) Rule 2.5 Protective eyewear must be worn as designed and may not be altered. Failure will result in a technical foul and the player will be charged with a timeout to secure eyewear. **2. A)** Rule 2.1 The shortline is located midway between the front and back wall. The court is 40 feet long. The shortline is 20 feet from the front and back wall. **3. False** The racquet may not exceed 21 inches in length.

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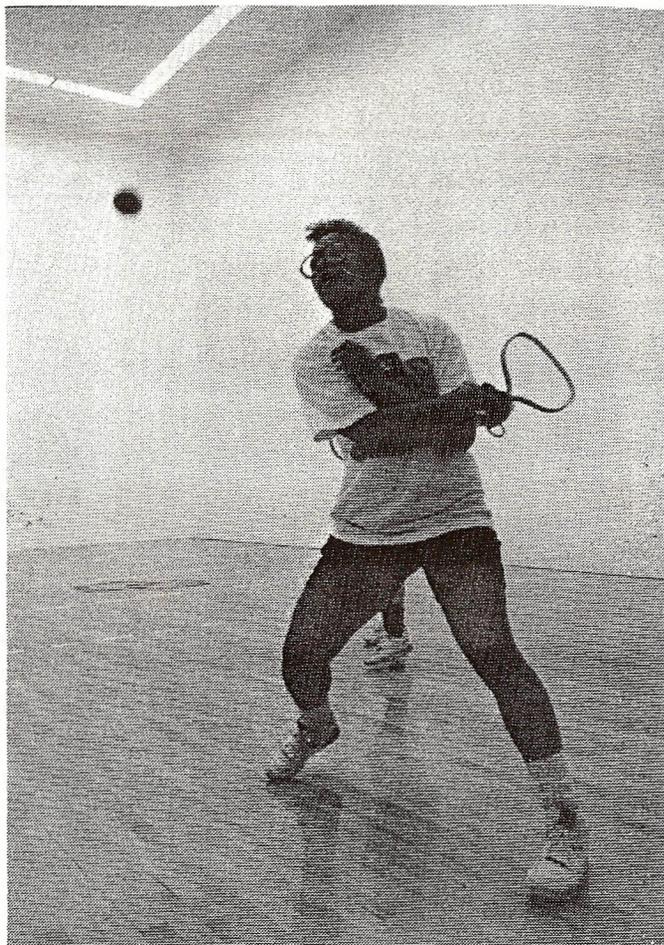
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1993 Rule Changes

1. It was decided that the penalty for use of a racquet that exceed the 21-inch limitation should be immediate forfeiture of the game in progress or forfeiture of the preceding game if the illegal racquet is discovered between games. Because there currently is **no** specified penalty for the use of an illegal racquet, the board recommends that this be the penalty imposed, but referees and tournament directors may make their own determinations in accordance with Rule 3.5(g).

2. The board also decided to lessen the penalty assessed when the server serves while the receiver is signaling "not ready." On September 1st, the penalty for that infraction will be a fault serve (rather than a technical foul and loss of point). As you probably know, no warnings are given for fault serves and this will be no exception. So, if you aren't already in the habit of checking your receiver, you'd better start (or develop a great second serve)!



Jozette Boone delivers a backhand kill.

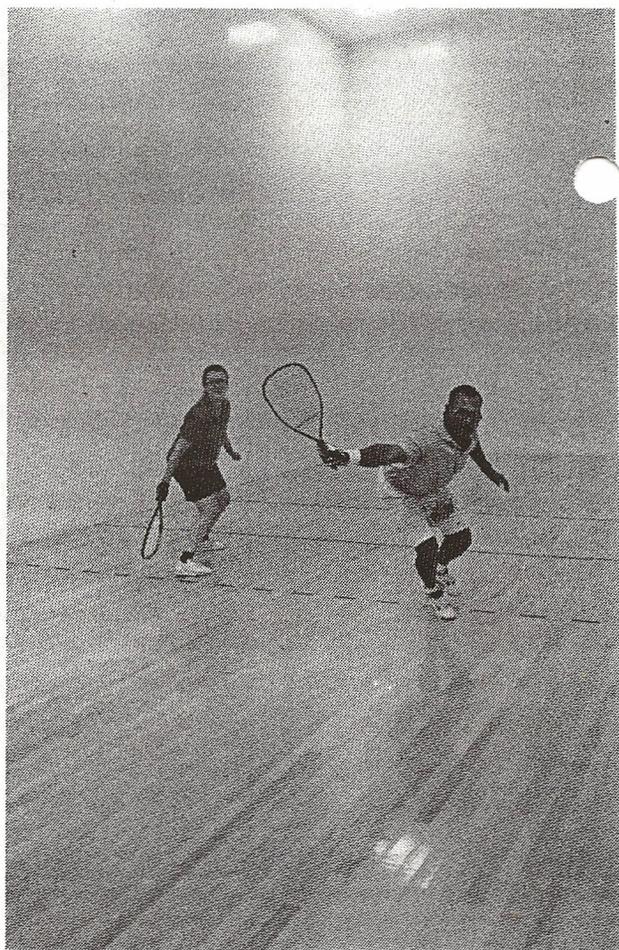
1993 World Senior Games

by Roger Flick

The Racquetball Tournament for the Huntsman World Senior Games will be held in St. George, October 20, 21 and 22 (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) at the Desert Palms athletic facility, next to the Hilton Inn. Other sports activities are offered during the week and the previous week. The registration DEADLINE is **SEPTEMBER 23, 1993**. Send for an application by writing to:

World Senior Games
1355 So. Foothill Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

or by calling 801-583-6231. All AARA rules will apply and you must be a member of AARA. If you are at least 50 years of age, then you qualify! If you have any question about the tournament call the Tournament Director, Roger C. Flick (WORK: 378-6010 or HOME: 225-4943).



Sheli Bodily watches as Diz Reese runs down a shot.

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