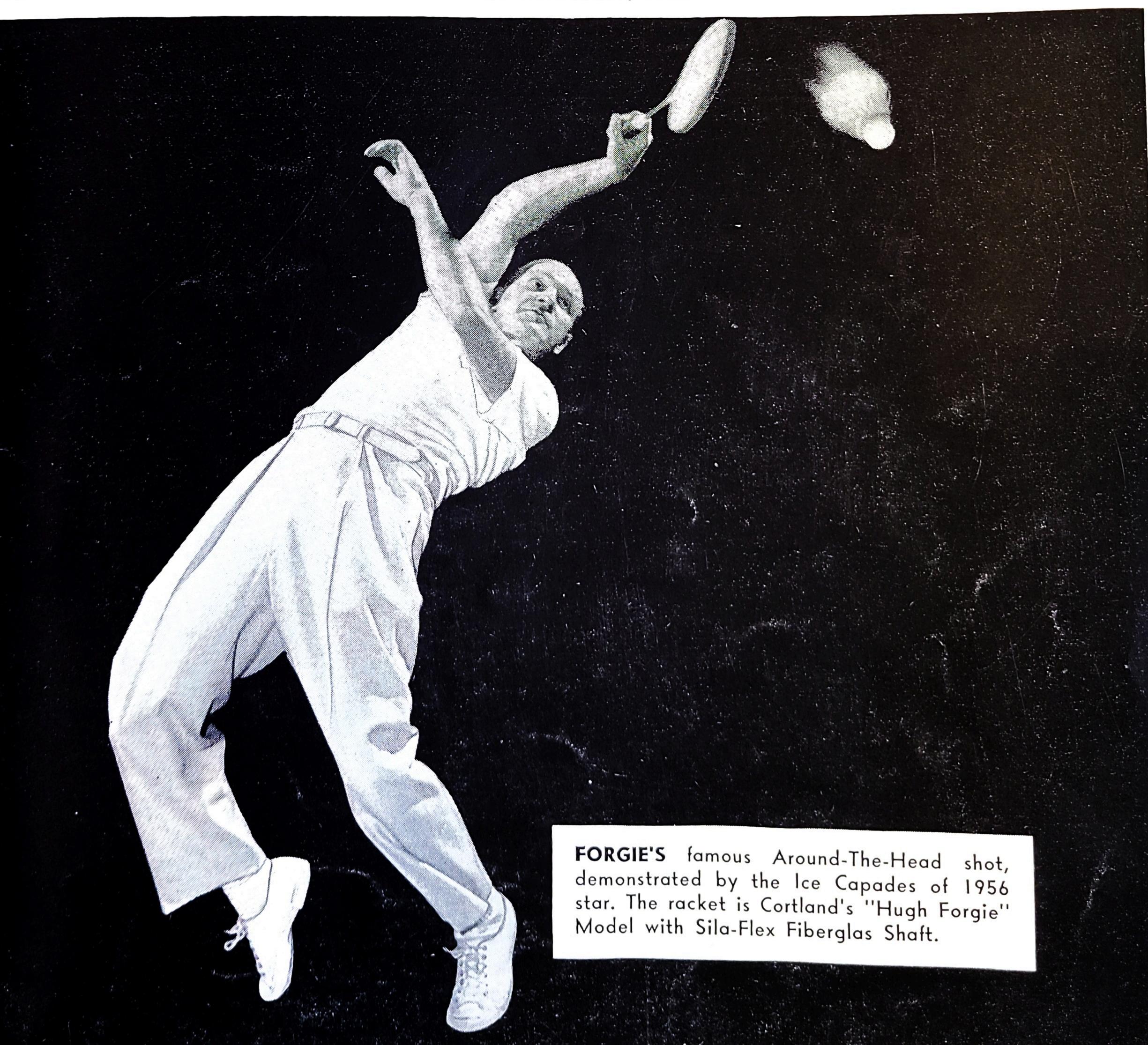
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BIRDCHATTER



Official Publication of the AMERICAN BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

Vol. 15

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1956

No. 2

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FLASH

(News Flash as released by the Helms Athletic Foundation)

Seven famed badminton champions were elected to the Helms Hall Badminton Hall of Fame. Those honored were: Joseph C. Alston, Dr. David G. Freeman, Walter Kramer, Wynn Rogers, Mrs. Bertha Barkhuff Cunningham, Ethel Marshall, and Mrs. Thelma Kingsbury Welcome.

The seven who have been cited will have their names engraved upon the Badminton Hall of Fame Trophy which is lodged in Helms Hall, Los Angeles, and each will become the recipient of the Helms Hall Badminton Hall of Fame Award.

Jack van Praag will have a complete story on the awards for the next issue of Bird Chatter.

ABA Sanctioned Tournaments, 1956

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Date	Name of Tournament	Location
January 16-21	Maryland State Class "C"	Baltimore, Md.
January 21-22	Metropolitan Championships	White Plains, N.Y.
February 6-11	Maryland State Class "B"	Baltimore, Md.
February 17-19	New England Open	Boston, Mass.
February 25-26	Niagara Falls C.C. Inv.	Lewiston, N.Y.
March 2-4	Mason-Dixon	Baltimore, Md.
March 5-10-11	Western New York A.B.C.	Lewiston, N.Y.
March 23-25	Kodak Invitation	Rochester, N.Y.
March 24-26	Junior National Championship	Grosse Point, Mich.
Mar. 31 - Apr. 1	Niagara Falls C.C. Closed	Lewiston, N.Y.
April 4-7	U.S. Open Amateur Championships	Philadelphia, Pa.

100% 'ers

The following clubs have subscribed to Bird Chatter 100%.

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PASADENA BADMINTON CLUB
GLENDALE BADMINTON CLUB
NEEDHAM JR'S BADMINTON CLUB

The entire staff sincerely appreciates the backing and encouragement that the members of the above clubs have given them since taking over the publishing of Bird Chatter.

Special Notice to All Subscribers Living Outside of the U.S. (NOV.-DEC. 1955, ISSUE)

Beginning with Volume 15, Issue No. 1, subscription rates for ALL subscriptions to be mailed outside of the United States will be \$1.50 for four issues. WHEN SENDING YOUR RENEWALS BE SURE YOU SEND THE CORRECT AMOUNT. Paid subscriptions already on our books will not be increased until time for renewal.

UBER CUP

A committee, consisting of Helen Gibson, Grace Devlin and Dottie Hann, has been appointed to study the possibility of entering a ladies' team in the Uber Cup International Competition in 1957. A report of this committee will be in the next issue of *Bird Chatter*.

Ken Davidson's Early Years in America

By Lealand R. Gustavson

In the fall of 1935 I stopped in at the 34th Street Armory in New York to play a few games of badminton. I was introduced to a newcomer named Ken Davidson, from England, who said he would like a game, so we dressed and went on to the court. From the first rally I saw what I had never seen before and what millions of people have seen since—the artistry Ken could produce with a racket and a shuttle. I played with Ken frequently after that, but could never get over the first amazement at what he could do.

Ken came to this country as a representative of General Sportcraft and R.S.L. Shuttles. Before leaving England he had achieved high rank as an Internationalist, playing for Scotland. His home was in Leeds, Yorkshire. During those same early years Ken played cricket for Yorkshire and achieved the goal of all cricket batsmen "the century." He had one high score of 170, and though he tried cricket in the United States, he did not find it the same as in England and eventually gave it up.

Ken was anxious to see a professional baseball game and when he did see his first game he was awed by the smooth, accurate throwing ability of

the ball players.

The first year or so Ken played badminton as an amateur. He entered some of our major eastern tournaments and always won the doubles and mixed but I can't remember his winning a singles match, although I commented on that to him only a few years ago and he claimed he had.

Ken entered the New England Open at Boston and teamed with Wally Kramer. In the finals, Wally playing back most of the time, had so little to do, he jokingly turned to the gallery and asked for a chair.

Sometime during this period Hugh Forgie arrived in New York from Canada and became attached to the Old 69th Regiment Armory badmin-

ton concession as a pro.

Prior to this time, Jess Willard, American professional from Boston, and his partner Bill Hurley, were putting on a stage show at the Roxy Theater in New York. Jess had a particularly strong backhand and built an act around that. He had Bill doing a good bit of the running and diving for impossible shots until Bill had to

wear hip pads due to bruises from falls. This was the first of the theatrical teams. Through Ken's promotion, exhibitions were in order and Gil Carpenter and I played in quite a few of these against Ken and Hugh. It was during these early shows that Ken began developing his "act" with Hugh as a partner. I recall a show at the elegant New York Athletic Club before a gallery of about two hundred socialites. We played doubles and then Ken and Hugh came on for some singles. The game started normally and then Ken injected some of his "stuff." Immediately people, in the staid gallery, in evening clothes, were standing on their chairs cheering like a bleacher gallery at a Dodger ball game.



That set the pattern, for from then on the act developed and Ken gradually added more embroidery and finesse. It took a great deal of skill on the part of both players, many rehearsals, perfect timing, stroking and loads of stamina to perform these "silly tactics."

The badminton tournament world saw their dumb janitor act at the first American Badminton Association National Championships, played in Chiago in 1937. The A.B.A. Amateur Status Committee concluded that Ken was no amateur and that ended Ken's competitive career.

Ken hadn't been in the United States long when "Rip," the man who ran the badminton concession at the 34th Street Armory, promoted an exhibition match between Ken and Jack

Purcell in singles, and Ken and Frank Devlin vs. Jack Purcell and Jack Aiken of Canada in doubles. Quite a show!

Thelma Kingsbury (now Mrs. Claude Welcome) came to America as a professional and toured with Ken on exhibitions. One of their early engagements was at the Rainbow Room atop the R.C.A. Building in Rocke-

feller Center.

When Thelma first arrived in the United States, she, Connie, Ken and Margaret Davidson spent a Sunday with us in Westport. Margaret was a small, thoroughly delightful little English girl, so very grown-up in her speech and manners. I got her to calling Ken "Pop" and we all were amused to note that it irritated him some because it violated the high standards of propriety set for English children. Margaret is still that same thoroughly delightful and beautiful English girl, though married and the mother of two daughters, all American style.

Ken's influence on badminton in the East was considerable. Most notable was the switch to the front and back style in men's doubles but the entire standard of fine play was evident. Some, of course, tried to imitate Ken's tricks. Hugh Forgie was much influenced by Ken and through Hugh, many others were helped, notably Bill Markham. Ken had long theater engagements at the Roxy and the Music Hall in New York and nine months at the Paladium in London, then a command performance before the Royal family of England.

When Ken and Connie moved to California, Ken had become a truly International Ambassador of good will. He was easy to know and everybody knew him well and liked him.

I would be amiss not to say something about the book we wrote together, because nobody else would know about these things. I am proud of my association with Ken and our accomplishment.

I started with the thought in mind that something could be done to help the school athletic coach. Perhaps a text book that would supply their needs with elementary principles profusely illustrated. Ken was visiting in New York, and as I was leaving, after a luncheon we had had together, I mentioned what I had been doing and that I had talked with some book publishers. Ken got quite excited and said he had had a similar idea but hadn't done anything about it. A few days later I received a long letter from him in Chicago proposing that we join forces and produce a book together. As you see that is what we did.

The first year and a half was hectic with Ken in Los Angeles and me in Westport. Ken was trying to close up his affairs in the West, sell his house, move East and write a book simultaneously. At my end I wrote and made sketches and continually mailed materials back and forth trying to meet the publishers deadline, which we did not do by over a year. When Ken did get back East we spent many days here in my studio discussing, arguing, demonstrating, writing and drawing. Problems of stroking had to be explained. I would sit at my drawing board writing while Ken paced the floor talking, swinging a racket, going through slow motion, then we'd argue about details, measure off feet and inches on the floor and go through the motions again. I would then make quick sketches of the correct action and finally we would get the words on paper. Ken would write those beautiful long pieces on fundamental strokes and tactics and send them to me for consideration. Invariably I would advise him to reduce the quantity of words, which seemed a crime, but we were always cramped for space. Then we would spend evenings at his Bronxville apartment polishing up a bit and organizing. The floor would be literally covered with drawings and photos. Finally a book was published. Now it has been published in England to cover Europe and Africa and we have had publishing inquiries from Japan.

"Winning Badminton" is one sports book that was not ghost written. We wrote every word ourselves and we were very demanding of ourselves. A few publishing errors occurred because of the last minute rush of a publishing date. Ken was humiliated over these because by his standards errors should not occur.

From here on I think you knew Ken as well as I did. We all miss him.

Wedding Bells: Miss Jimmie Martin of Roanoke, Virginia, became the bride of Charles G. Steele, Jr., in November.

Suggestions for a New Badminton Player

Lealand Gustayson

These suggestions will include elementary court etiquette as well as suggestions on court equipment.

A fairly good quality racket is an economical investment. The overall weight is not all important but it should be close to five ounces when strung. A sturdy racket may be a little over and a delicate one slightly under. Balance is the important feature. When swinging the racket you should not be conscious of a headweight that drags. The racket should respond freely to finger and wrist action.

Good gut is preferable to synthetic strings.

The shuttle is a delicate precision gadget but surprisingly sturdy if not mistreated. One should smooth out the ruffled feathers every few rallies and NOT shove the shuttle across the floor with one's foot or racket. When not being played with, keep your shuttles away from dry, hot or cold places. The feather shafts dry out and break easily when not humidified. A good average weight is 76 grains-pointed feather or 79 grain-round end feather.

White clothes and shoes are advisable at all times. You will be more comfortable and more acceptable to other players.

Learn the basic and fundamental rules correctly and quickly and observe them. They are not difficult.

Make yourself agreeable company and play with everyone you can, good, bad or indifferent, male, female, young, or old. False modesty is nearly as objectionable as superior cockiness.

ENJOY THE GAME AND THE COMPANY.

WANTED * PICTURES FOR PUBLICATION IN BIRD CHATTER

Elementary Grip and Stroking

Lealand Gustayson

When picking up your racket, grip it with your fingers in such a manner that you feel as though your hand is on top of the handle. Then extend your arm straight out, any direction will do, with the line of the racket a straight line extention of your outstretched arm, just as you would point an accusing finger. When you can do this you are fairly close to the correct grip and the correct position of arm and racket at the time of impact with the shuttle.

Regardless of what stroke you are producing the arm should be extended and the racket straight out. Cockeyed angles should not be allowed to occur between the arm and racket. This holds true whether you are hitting an overhead smash, drive, underhand, backhand, or forehand, severe power or delicate net shots.

Pace your steps, and position your body so that you will be the correct distance from the spot where the shuttle will be when you intend to hit it.

Two common faults are: (1) To overrun so that you are too close to the shuttle when hitting and therefore must cramp your arm to compensate for bad judgment of distance. This happens most often on net play. (2) To wait for a clear to get directly overhead instead of moving backward in time so that your body-weight may move forward again into the shot, thus hitting the shuttle properly at arms length, well out in front of you.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

If you have news, tournament results or pictures for publication in Bird Chatter, PLEASE send it direct to the editress (Mrs.) Marguerite Miller, 1165 Ruberta Ave., Glendale 1, Calif., and you will be assured of a better chance of getting your material in the magazine.

Irene Gardner handles subscriptions only (and if you don't think that is a job, you should try it sometime). Irene lives about six miles from your editor and when you send news, etc., to her it is generally delayed from two to five days as we do not get together any oftener than that.

We will appreciate your cooperation as it will save us work, especially Irene, as well as give you a better chance to make the deadline.

Detroit "On Fire" About 1956 National Jr. Tourney

George W. Davis

Detroit, which produced America's first national singles champ (Wally Kramer), will play host in a big way to "champs of the future" at the National Junior Championships next spring.

Dates of the tournament are Saturday, Sunday and Monday, March 24, 25 and 26, 1956.

Scene — the new gym of Grosse Pointe High School — a brand-new building with nine courts with 24-foot ceiling clearance, plus four practice courts. Special window curtains prevent daylight from affecting the excellent lighting.

The gym is located on Fisher Road, about 9 miles east of the center of Detroit, in the beautiful suburban area comprised of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, and Grosse Pointe Woods.

Lovely Lake St. Clair and the famous Grosse Pointe Yacht Club are nearby.

Everybody knows that Detroit is the "motor capital" of the world, but not many know that more waterbourne shipping tonnage passes thru the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair than the Panama and Suez canals combined. Sometimes as many as fifteen or twenty mammoth freighters are in view at one time.

Another little known fact is that Canada, on the other side of the Detroit River, is south of Detroit, not north. Anyone coming to the tournament and wishing to "set foot" in Canada can do so easily, via the Detroit-to-Windsor tunnel or the nearby Ambassador Bridge.

Greenfield Village, the magnificent historical area developed by Henry Ford, lies about ten miles west of the heart of Detroit, not far from the vast Rouge Plant of the Ford Motor Company. Greenfield Village attracts thousands of sight-seers from all over the world, and is an experience never to be forgotten.

Numerous other attractions and "tours" will be covered in the "packets" that will be sent to all contestants.

Hans Rogind, who learned his badminton in that hot-bed of play, Denmark, is spark-plugging the 1956 National Junior Tournament as General Chairman.

The entire committee is out to make the tournament a memorable event for all contestants and visitors. While no one in Detroit has the seasoned experience of Frank Devlin in Baltimore or Whitney Warner of Cleveland, the committee is counting on energy and enthusiasm to put the tournament on in fine style.

Entry fees will be the same as previous tournaments—\$3.00 per player for doubles, and only \$1.00 per player per event for the "15 and under" tournament. These fees do not come even close to covering tournament expenses, but the committee (as in past Junior events) prefers to keep the entry fees as low as possible, obtaining the additional extra income from donations, ticket sales, and so on.

Informational mailings will be made to clubs, associations, etc., in the near future. Meanwhile, anyone interested in the tournament and wanting information at once is cordially invited to write anyone on the committee.

Three of Detroit's oldest Badminton Clubs — Grosse Pointe, Detroit, and Birmingham—are pitching in to make the tournament a success, working with the Michigan Bandminton Association.



Committees

10th Annual National Junior and "Under 15" Tournaments

General Chairman—Hans Rogind, 1360 Seward Ave., Detroit 2, Mich.

Asst. General Chairmen—W. R. Bryant, 687 University Place, Grosse Pointe 30, Mich.; George W. Davis, 1030 Pilgrim, Birmingham, Mich.

Housing & Transportation—Mary Bryant, 687 University Place, Grosse Pointe 30, Mich.

Tournament — Everett D. Gesaman, 12346 Second Blvd., Detroit 3, Mich.

Entries & Registration — H. L. "Bud" Gordon, 6060 Worlington Rd., Birmingham, Mich., assisted by Maurice Simpson, 2415 N. Pinecenter Dr., Pontiac, Mich.

Trophies—Maurice Simpson, 2415 N. Pinecenter Dr., Pontiac, Mich.

Finance—Guy Ireland, 16913 Maumee Rd., Grosse Pointe 30, Mich.

Entertainment — Mary Connor, 17206 Parkside, Detroit 21, Mich.

Patron Tickets—C. E. Wilson, Jr., 5961 Lahser Rd., Birmingham, Mich.

Inquiries are invited from clubs, visitors, contestants. Write direct to committee member at address listed above.

SAVE BY DRIVING NEW CAR HOME FROM DETROIT

Anyone visiting Detroit for the 10th Annual National Junior and "Under 15" tournaments next March may be able to save money by buying a new car, taking delivery in Detroit, and driving the new car home.

In some cases, the transportation expense added into the cost of a new car in your home city may be enough to pay all of your travel expenses to and from Detroit.

Check with your local dealer for details, as each manufacturer has different arrangements for delivering cars to customers picking them up in Detroit.

Thousands of new car buyers come to Detroit every month on this plan. There is nothing unusual about it, and most manufacturers have carefully worked out plans for delivering cars to customers in Detroit.

1956 THIRD OPEN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Delaware Valley Badminton Association announces the following committee for the Third Open Tourney to be held in Philadelphia April 4, 5 and 6.

The general chairman will be Peter J. Salmon with Arthur Jones assisting as vice-chairman and Pat Cornell as secretary. The specific assignments are divided into three groups with Pete Salmon heading Business, C. J. Hickman heading Administration, and Harry Hackett heading Tournament. Listed as individual chairmen reporting to one of these three are E. Fairman, Tickets; P. Snyder, Repair Shop; Bill Bender, Program; Pete Salmon, Posters; John Cornell, Trophies; B. Quittman, Transportation; Pete Salmon, Insurance; C. Hickman and H. Hackett, Social; John Cornell, House and Grounds; Mrs. A. Jones, Ushers; I. O'Neill, Umpires; H. Hackett, Draw; T. Hamilton, Public Relations; Mrs. Foxx and Mrs. Jones, Reception and Registration; John Cornell, International and Sectional Invitations.

The final program will give the complete list of workers.

St. Joseph's College

Philadelphia, Pa.
(Site of 1956 National Open Championships)

The following is a short history of Sports at the St. Joseph's College where people from all over the world will gather in the early part of April to compete in the Third Open Badminton Championships af the American Badminton Association.

(As taken from the Centennial Edition of the College.) The origin of athletics is lost in the mist of the founding of St. Joseph's College in historic Old St. Joseph's Rectory on Willing's Alley. But the present day program of balanced intercollegiate and intra-mural schedules, retains the same casual spirit of a century ago. For the faculty attitude remains unchanged; fun for the students, but no untoward drive for victory.

In the intercollegiate sense, our sports have been traced back to 1894 when a baseball game was played against Roman Catholic High at Fairmount Park. It was a tingling 25-25 tie! Colleges in those casual days opposed high schools — even into the early 1900s, in fact. While it may not

have been our first football game, there is a record of our tying Temple in 1896, also in the Park.

For basketball we have an exact date—the 1901 season. This our most beloved sport, started as a spontaneous student venture, as was the case at most older colleges. The late James A. Breen, '01, later on the Founders Committee, helped start the sport which brought us national recognition. Bathing suits and track outfits were the first uniforms: Temple and La Salle first year rivals.

Football had its moments, but in its final days student interest ebbed. There were famous victories and stars; in 1922, the first year the sport was fully organized after World War One, Temple was defeated in a memorable game.

Track, in recent years, has been phenomenally successful and needs no extended review.

Here it is necessary to pay tribute to the students who pioneered our sports. They launched their own teams. Later athletes played with faculty recognition but in grim athletic plants, where cold showers were luxuries; they rode bikes, trolley, or even

(Continued on Page 21)



NATIONAL PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN



Jack van Praag

National News

Word has just been received that Margaret Varner, Judy Devlin, Lois and Joe Alston have received and accepted invitations to participate in the All-England Championships to be held in London March 14-17, 1956. We are happy and proud that our top three women and our top man have been so honored by the Badminton Association of England. We feel sure they will be a credit to the United States and there is every reason to feel that they may bring back two or three of the All-England titles. They will return to the United States in time to compete in the A.B.A. Open Championships in Philadelphia, April 4-7.

A special committee has been formed by the A.B.A. for the purpose of considering ways and means for the participation by the United States in competition for the Uber Cup, more formally known as the "Ladies International Badminton Championship" which will be inaugurated in 1956-57. The publicity value of this competition, with the Thomas Cup competition, is readily apparent and should do much to stimulate increased interest in badminton.

The November 28th and December 5th issues of "Sports Illustrated" have listed dates of badminton tournaments under their scheduled sports events heading. Sports Illustrated for November 21st also contained a double page spread showing pictures of 251 winners of tournaments conducted by the International Business Machines Company. Featured was

Badminton Tournament receiving a beautiful trophy. Such recognition, plus the Sports Illustrated cover picture of Joe Alston in action, some months ago, show that perhaps badminton is getting somewhere in the eyes of the general public.

It is not too early to start to "beat the drums" for our two National Tournaments, the Senior event at Philadelphia, April 4-7, and the Junior Tournament at Detroit, March 24-26, 1956. Let's all appoint ourselves a committee of one in our respective communities to talk up these two tournaments to insure a large attendance and to make them the two greatest tournaments yet. Active and capable committees are busy formulating plans for these two big events and your help will be deeply appreciated. It is very likely that there will be a large foreign entry in the Senior event, due to the fact that it is on the East Coast. Let's have a large domestic entry and make every effort to get local publicity.



Court Tactics

Hugh Forgie

It's an old but well known fact that the best defense is a strong offense. The fewer shots that you hit up and the more shots that you hit down, the less opportunity you give your opponent to attack. The most vulnerable spot to most players is on the deep back-hand. Much of your attack should be directed here. When smashing it is best to experiment as to which side of your opponent is the more vulnerable.

Badminton, well played, is a battle of wits as well as of skill and activity, where superior court tactics frequently win over the more obvious advantages. You should learn to play all your shots with a purpose. Determine before each stroke whether you are going to try to win a point, or whether you are satisfied to play a defensive return, waiting for more opportune moment to carry the attack. A change of mind in the midst of a stroke is disastrous.

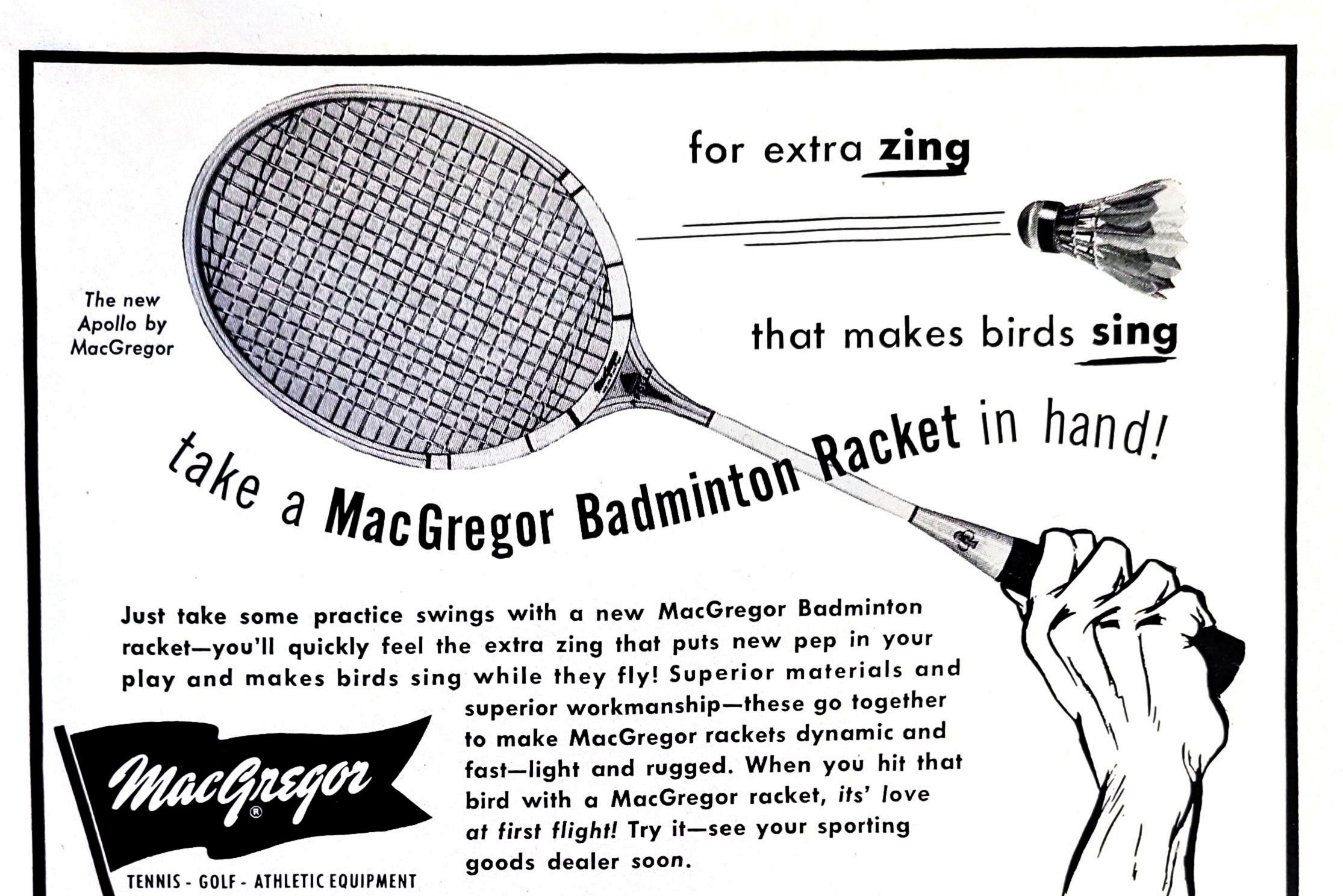
If you know your opponent's game and know that in certain circumstances he invariably plays a particular shot, then you can afford to move in anticipation. Again, when you have forced your opponent into extreme difficulty you may anticipate the return. However, don't dash about foolishly gambling on your opponent's returns; be at your base ready to go in any direction whenever your opponent has a choice of shots.

From my observations, I have deducted that there are three progressive phases through which players pass in their employment of court tactics. (1) A player in the first phase always hits to the obvious opening in the court. He invariably finds his opponent anticipating it. (2) A player in the second phase usually hits to the spot which his opponent has just left. These tactics frequently win over a player of the first phase. (3) A player in the third phase (a good player) has learned to camouflage his shots so that he can stop his opponent momentarily while he hits quickly more often than not to the obvious opening.

The tactics of the different games vary quite decidedly. In singles, the tactics are basically defensive, the clear and the drop being the basis of the play.

In ladies' and men's doubles, attack is the basic principle; the smash and drop being of primary importance.

In mixed doubles there is the wid-(Continued on Page 20)



WANTED

NEWS and PICTURES



CINCINNATI 32, OHIO

TO FILL

THIS SPACE



FOR NEXT ISSUE

JUNIOR BADMINTON IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

With four hundred juniors participating in weekly programs through- . out Southern California the future of Badminton in the area is assured.

Two hundred and twelve of these young hopefuls entered the only major junior tournament held in Southern California this year — the SCJBT sponsored by the Pasadena Badminton Club and held at the Pasadena City College. Junior programs are held in Manhattan Beach, Alhambra, Burbank and Pasadena. The Manhattan, Alhambra and Burbank Clubs have inter-club tournaments during the season. Pasadena had the largest number of juniors participating throughout the year. Five junior high schools, Washington, Eliot, Marshall and Wilson open their gyms for play as does the Pasadena City College.

During the winter months Loma and Hulet Smith hold classes once a week and the summer months twice a week. An advance class is held at City College where Lois and Joe Alston, Wynn Rogers, Alan Mahaffey, Mike Hartgrove and Buzz Martin help in instructing. The age range of of the players is from eight to eighteen.

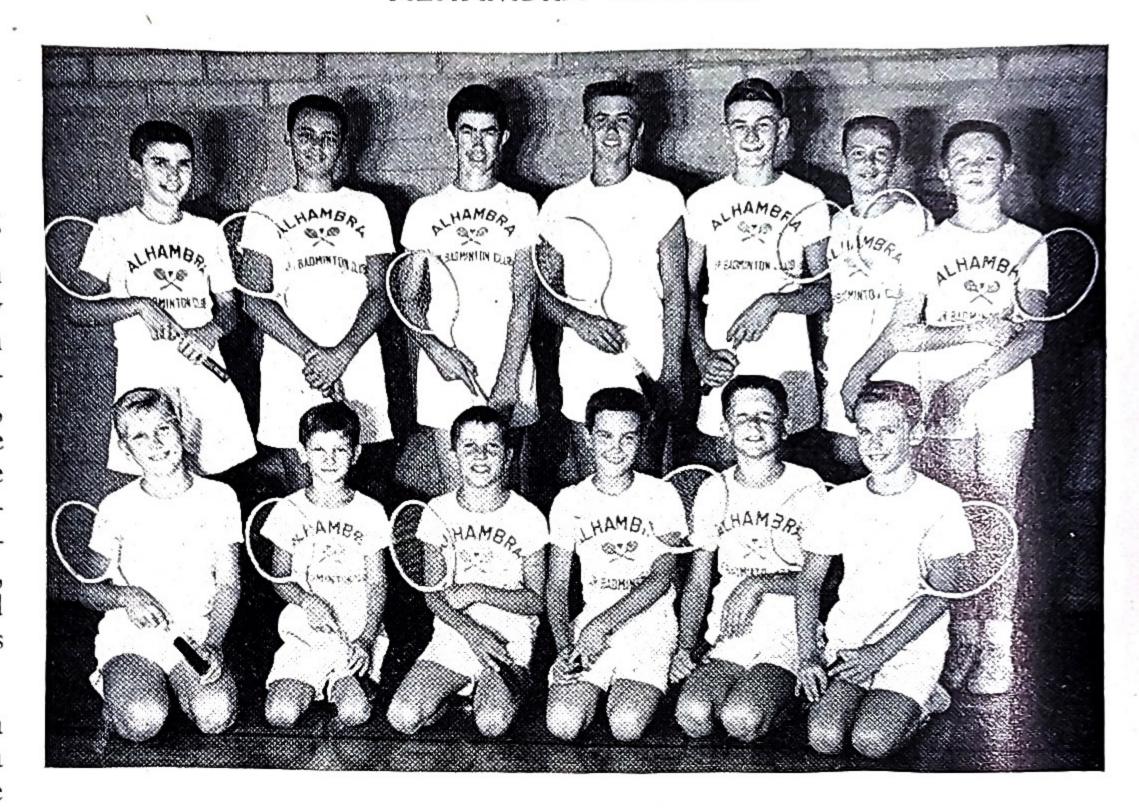
The Burbank-Glendale Juniors are. sponsored and instructed by George and Babe Pajares. This group of some thirty "active" playing youngsters, ranging in age from nine to seventeen, are beginning their third year of play at the Burbank Recreation Center. The older members have formed a group known as the Burbank Birdie Blazers, and while they meet only once a week, show great progress and interest. They have had instruction and good competition from members of both Glendale and Burbank Badminton Clubs. Their birds are furnished by the Glendale Badminton Club,

The city of Burbank furnishes the courts and will furnish racquets to members not owning their own. The city also furnishes the trophies for inter-club tournaments.

Four brothers of Burbank's Manuel Armendariz, ranging in age from eleven to seventeen, play with the group—"Watch out Manny, these boys are GOOD."

The Alhambra Junior Group has approximately fifty boys and five girls

ALHAMBRA JUNIORS



the club in outside tournaments. During the summer months, there are weekly tournaments held in the Almansor Gym in each of four classes— A, B, C, and D with an all city tournament at the close of vacation.

During the summer, the club plays Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. When school is in session, members play Wednesday nights and Saturdays. Team members are eligible to play on Friday nights with the adults. The club has its home at the Almansor Memorial Recreation Center in Alhambra, where there are six courts. Players are coached by Ned Vallerand, Don Tallman and Laurie Cook. Other adults who have given much of their time are Jack van Praag, Lin Shampine and Dennis DePry.

The Department of Parks and Recreation of Alhambra sponsors the group. Fred C. Cope is head of the department and Stuart K. Spencer is director of recreation.

The club is especially proud of its team which has done very well in the past two Southern California Junior Tournaments. Bob Mesias is the present holder of the 15 and under boy's singles title and he teamed with Car-

taking part in the program with an men Chiarenza to take the 15 and age range of eight to fifteen. A team, under boys' doubles crown. Mike Mcmade up of the best players represents Callum and Jack Ricketts were runners-up in the 13 and under boys' doubles division. They lost to a very good team from Manhattan Beach.

> Club officers are Bob Mesias, president; Wayne Ladner, vice-president; Carmen Chiarenze, secretary; and Alex Loscialpo, treasurer.

> The boys look very sharp in their new "Alhambra Jr. Badminton Club" shirts, and white shorts. They wear "all white" for tournaments.

> The Manhattan Beach Badminton Club Juniors have about fifty players in three groups. Beginners—ages from eight to ten years. Charles Kitto supervises this group on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m. The Intermediate has sixteen children ranging from ten years of age to twelve. This group plays on Thursday evening from 7 to 8 p.m. with Nell Campbell, Maggie del Valle, and Lillian Wells supervising, with a one hour lesson once a month given by Liz Anselm.

> The advanced group is supervised by Toy Erkkila and Ed Stevenson. There are approximately twenty in this group ranging from twelve to sixteen years of age, with play on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m.

OVERSEAS NEWS

From information gleaned from the **Badminton Gazette**

Herbert A. E. Scheele, Editor

The International Badminton Federation has accepted with pleasure from Mrs. H. S. Uber her offer to present a trophy for the Ladies' International Badminton Championship, which will be the feminine counterpart of the Thomas Cup competition. Play will start the early part of 1956 with the New Zealand Badminton Federation holding the distinction of registering the first challenge for the first competition for the Uber Cup. New Zealand will take part in the Australasian Zone. Entries for the Asiatic and Australasian Zones will close on March 1, 1956. Entries for the American and European Zones will close June 15, 1956.

The Malayan Championships of 1955, held almost immediately after the challenge round of the Thomas Cup contest, brought forth some startling upsets. Although neither the Americans nor the Indians competed, a number of Danes, Australians, Bur-tion having been received, the Exec-themselves well.

mese and Indonesians were entered. Ferry Sonneville, an Indonesian, stole the show when he became the men's singles champion of Malaya. He reached the semi-finals as expected but there the 23 year old player from Java met the great Wong Peng Soon whom he defeated to the tune of 8-15, 15-3, 15-2, an astonishing score to record against the man generally conceded to be the best in the world. In the finals the Indonesian defeated Denmark's Jorn Skaarup 15-5, 15-4. One of the biggest upsets was the defeat of Eddy Choong in his first match at the hands of another Indonesian, Olich Ahmad Solehin, 17-14, 16-18, 15-6, although it was generally conceded that Eddy was not at his top form. In the men's doubles, Org Poh Lim and Ooi Teik Hock won the title as expected, defeating the Danes, Finn Kobbero and Hammergaard Hansen, 15-7, 18-17.

In scanning the I.B.F. News as printed in the columns of the "Badminton Gazette" there is printed an Interpretation of Law 16 as follows: "A request for official interpreta-

utive Committee has issued its opinion that no fault is committed under Law 16 even though the server's foot might swivel, or if "stationary" contact with the floor was gradually altered from one part of the foot to another during the delivery of the service (as for instance, a slow movement which shifted the weight of the body from the heel to the ball of the foot) always provided that otherwise the law was adhered to."

Concentrated effort on the part of a number of our friends "South of the Border" has resulted in the formation of the Badminton Federation of Mexico. Formerly interest in badminton has been confined to Mexico City where the game is played principally at the fabulous Deportivo Chapultepec which is a sports organization probably without peer anywhere in the world. It is hoped that Mexico will become a contender in the next Thomas Cup contest. Mexico has sent delegations of players to the United States Championships as well as to Manhattan Beach, California, tournaments where they have acquitted

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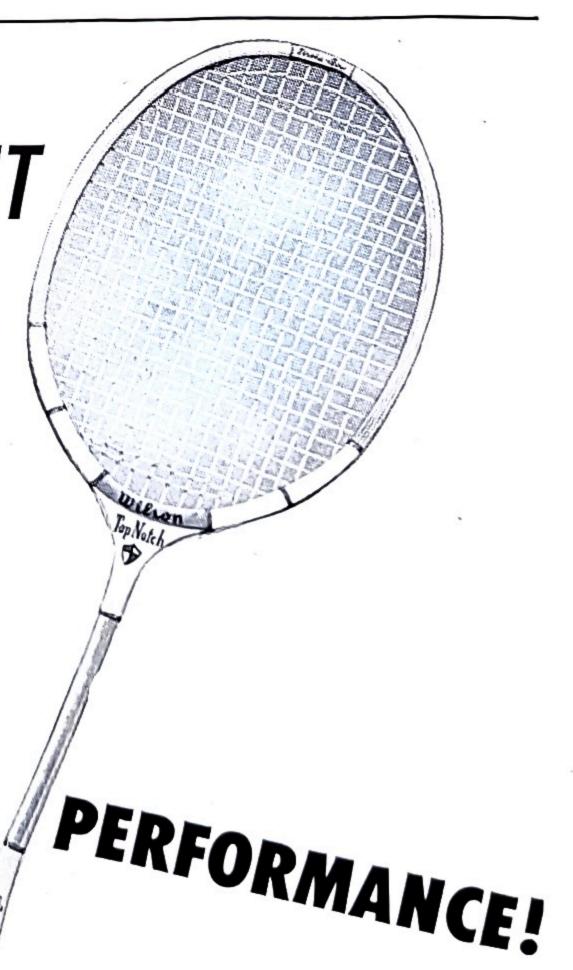
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From Coast...

CONNECTICUT

Walt Finnerman

The raging waters of the Naugatuck River recently passed within a few yards of the company auditorium used by the Bristol Company Badminton Club on dark winter evenings. Fortunately no damage was done and the sounds of "plunk" and "ping" can now be heard in the building most every evening. These are not the only sounds heard, but are probably the most easily described.

Another season of badminton is in progress here at The Bristol Company in Waterbury, Conn. Forty-five active players are competing intramurally and many of these represent the Bristol Company in matches throughout Connecticut in tournaments and State Class "A," "B" and "C" league

play.

We are all justly proud of our 1955 Connecticut "B" Men's Singles Champion, Tom Golden, and his emergence this season as an "A" player. Tom celebrated by getting married.

The Bristol Company Badminton Club is probably somewhat unique in that it has maintained an active player membership of Bristol Company employees over a period of twenty years. The Bristol Club is frequently represented at state tourneys. We even sent a representation of eight players to the New England Open last season.

Dick Davenport, our energetic president for the past nine years and the current Connecticut Veterans Doubles Champion, has planned another active season for the club, including intramural and State competition. The season's end in April features an intramural tournament and banquet. These events are worth all the perspiration shed during the playing season.

ILLINOIS

Gertrude Kuehn

The Chicago Badminton Club held its Annual Golden Bird Class B Tournament during November. Following are the results:

M.S.—Ollie Olson def. George Brown, 15-8, 15-7. L.S.—Pat Pontow def. Norma Taylor, 11-6, 1-11, 11-6. M.D.—Ted Anderson-Al Sikorski def. Zita Obara-George Brown, 15-10, 15-9. L.D.—Norma Taylor-Barbara Berger def. Lynn Benson-Glen Stevens, 15-9, 15-9. Mx.D. — Margaret Werle-Ted Anderson def. Glen Stevens-Al Sirkorski, 15-9, 15-3.

MARYLAND

TOWSON BENEFIT SUCCESSFUL

Sue Devlin

The first Towson Open Tournament was held over Thanksgiving weekend and proved to be very successful. Thanks to the generosity of Groucher College in Towson, Md., we were able to enjoy excellent courts, lounge and locker room facilities. The caliber of play was high—eight nationally ranked players competing. There were forty-nine contestants, twenty-four of them from outside the Baltimore area.

Put on to benefit the Groucher Swimming Pool Fund and the young players of the Baltimore area, the tournament made a small profit. We are hoping to have this tournament as a permanent fixture with the date probably changed to the second weekend after Thanksgiving. If anyone has any suggestions of a better pre-Christmas date we would be very pleased to receive them. Final results were:

L.S.—Judy Devlin def. Dot O'Neil, 11-2, 11-0. M.S.—Bunky Roche def. Noël Fehm, 15-2, 15-0. L.D.—J. Devlin-S. Devlin def. Patsey Stephens-O'Neil, 15-6, 15-10. M.D.—Clint Stephens-Roche def. Fehm-Harry Quinn, 15-10, 15-9. Mx.D.—Stephens-Stephens def. C. Decker-S. Davis, 15-10, 15-6.

CONNECTICUT

Ted Jarrett

The 1955 renewal of the Westport Invitational Men's Doubles Tournament produced some of the tightest competition and best play seen at the Westport "Y" in recent years. It was marked by the ascendancy of the younger group of players who have been developing over the past few years. In addition to finalists Dick Ball of Baltimore (playing with Noel Fehm in the absence of Harry Quinn, who is in the Armed Services) and Bunky Roche of Baltimore (runnerup with Kost for the second consecutive year), the entry included "Butch" Kevorkian of Boston, current National Junior Champion, and Steve Hinchliffe of California, former National Junior Champion and currently a student at the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration in Boston.

Young Ball, with his sound and steady play, stood out in the final, as he and his partner pulled out their

MICHIGAN Badminton Tourney Ends

Fifty players participated at Kalamazoo College Gym in the 4th annual Southwestern Michigan Invitational Badminton Tournament. New champions were crowned in men's doubles. Eric Pratt and Lee Koopsen lost their title to the number one team of South Bend, Roy and Harold Nusbaum, by scores of 8-15, 17-14, 15-11. Pratt and Koopsen had match point several times, but could not win the point. Roy and Harold Nusbaum reached the finals by defeating in three long games the Grand Rapids team of Emery Freeman and Parker Terryberry by scores of 15-11, 2-15, 15-9. Pratt and Koopsen defeated Fraser Jones and Bob Braithwaite, 15-13, 15-11, in reaching their finals.

Again the Grand Rapids women's doubles team of Patty Cliff and Anna Mae Aldrink retained their doubles title by edging the Flint team of Carolyn Arnold and Vivian Rundell, 15-

11, 15-10.

Jean and Lee Koopsen of Kalamazoo also retained their mixed doubles title by downing Christine Murdock and Roy Nusbaum of South Bend in the semi-finals by scores of 15-10, 15-6. The Koopsens' then defeated the Grand Rapids team of Patty Cliff and Parker Terryberry in the finals by scores of 15-4, 15-13.

In the consolation division, the young Kalamazoo team of Fred Zuidema and Tom Beach were defeated in the men's doubles finals by the Flint team of Robert Bund and Del Ltuz, 15-5, 15-11.

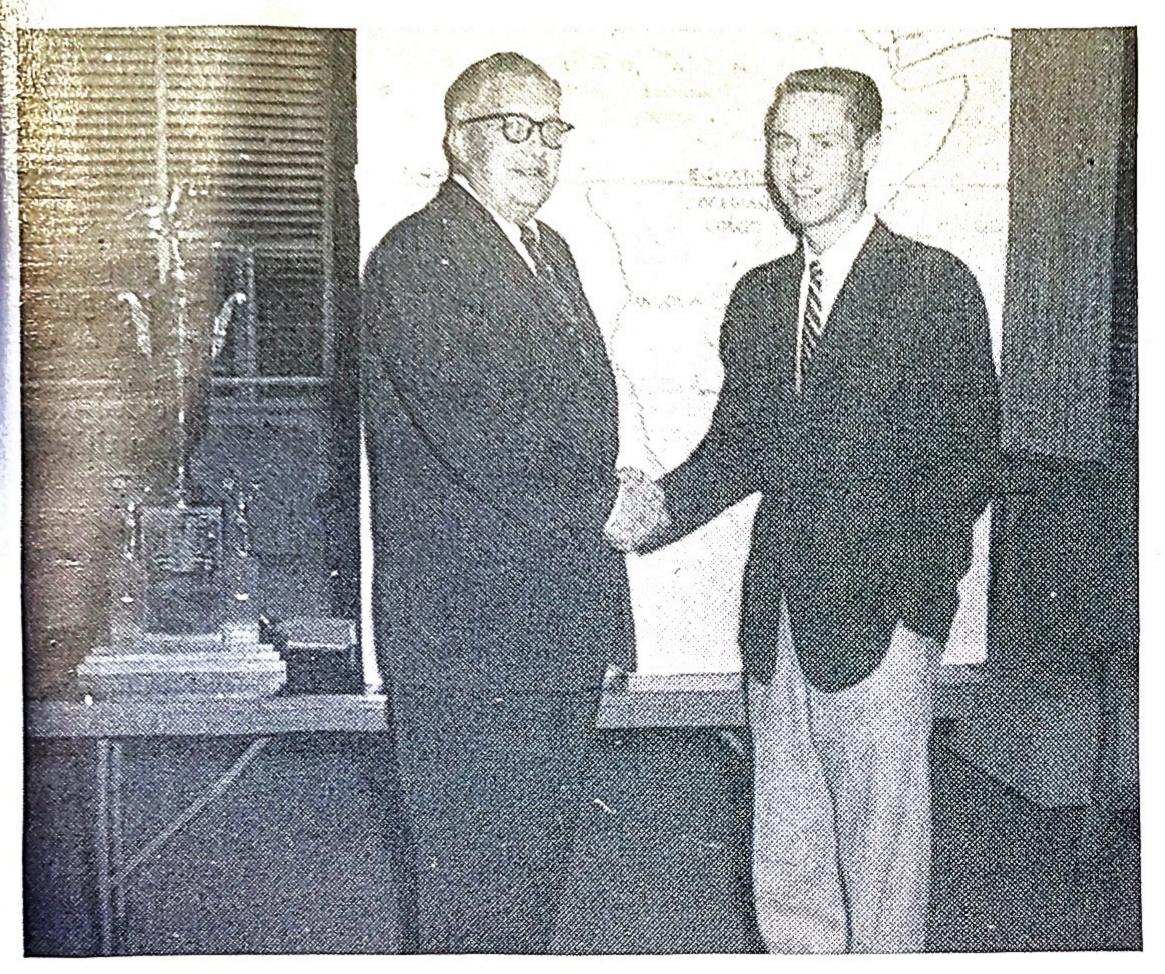
Consolation women's doubles finals had the Flint team of Delores Bund and Jeanette Mergen winning from Barbara Frost and Virginia Cunningham of Grand Rapids, 15-10, 15-6.

The next badminton play will have Kalamazoo playing host to the Grand Rapids Club, January 20th, at Treadway Gym.

very close victory. A week earlier, Dick lost a close 3-game semi-final to Fehm in the Men's Singles of the Towson (Md.) Tournament, the final of which was won by Roche.

Noel Fehm and Dick Ball won the tournament by defeating Ken Kost and Bunky Roche, 10-15, 1-8, 15-13.

.. to Coast



Mayor Pomeroy and Don Davis

WASHINGTON

(from the Washington State Badminton News, Edited by Carl Andersen)

Mayor Pomeroy, Mayor of Seattle, congratulated Don Davis on his exhibition tour of South Africa, as a representative of the U.S., at a reception shortly after Don's return.

Seattle would like to congratulate Peg Varner, Thelma Welcome, Abbie Rutledge, John Leib and Bill Berry, who were the other members of the squad to represent U.S.

Here and There: Hugh Mitchell was visiting in Southern California, so being a true shuttler went out and enjoyed play with the S.C. players. They have a large attendance each night, but they must all be married for he reports the men play in one gym and the women in another. (Which reminds me) Not so long ago, I asked a girl, who was rather new to the group, if she would play mixed doubles and to my surprise her answer was, "No! I am married."

MISSOURI Janet Mitchell

Results of the 1955 Missouri Open Badminton Championships held in St. Louis in November are as follows:

L.S.—Abbie Rutledge def. Thelma Burdick, 11-4, 11-4. M.S.—Ted Moehlman def. Fernando Molinar, 15-5, 15-7. L.D.—Burdick-Eleanor Coambs def. Rutledge-Betty Newman, 15-7, 15-9. M.D.—Moehlman-Earl Boston def. Rick Hoppe-Rufus Eichelberger, 15-17, 15-10, 15-10. Mx.D.—Moehlman-Rutledge def. Boston-Coambs, 15-9, 15-12. Vet.D.—Joe Tiberi-John Franczak def. Ken Aderholt-Herpel Perkins, 9-15, 15-9, 15-3.

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Badminton Association Officers, Directors and Committee Chairmen for 1956 season:

Robert A. Warren, Jr., president, 6 Walden Terrace, Concord, Mass.; Richard Slauer, 1st vice-president; Hobart Holly, 2nd vice-president; Evelyn F. Albion, secretary, and J. Craig Cameron, treasurer.

Directors are Howard Albion, John Baier, Phillip Blanchard, Henry Der, Lewis Fowler, Marjorie More, John V. Monroe, Robert O'Donnell, Allan Priddy, and Albert Warner. ABA Director is Charles Newhall.

Committee Chairmen are as follows: Rules—Hobart Holly; Ranking—Robert Steer; Membership—Albert Warner; Publicity—Mrs. Robert Perry; League—Ken Eaton; Amateur Status—Allan Priddy; Junior Activities—Richard Slauer; Tournaments—Phillip Blanchard.

Massachusetts Tournament Schedule

Eddy Perry

Mass. Class "C"—University Club,
January 27, 28, 29, 1956
Mass. Class "B"—University Club,
February 10, 11, 12, 1956
New England Open — University,
February 17, 18, 19, 1956
New England Intercollegiate—BouveBoston, Tufts University, February
25, 26, 1956
Mass. Junior Championships — University Club, March 3, 4, 1956
Mass. Championships — University

Tedesco Invitation Mixed Doubles— Tedesco Country Club, March 17, 18, 1956

LEAGUE MATCHES

Club, March 9, 10, 11, 1956

The Mass. League Matches started on December 12, 1955, with nine

teams entered in the "C" and "D" league. Each match consists of men's doubles, ladies' doubles, and mixed doubles. Ken Eaton of the Needham Badminton Club is chairman of the league.

CALIFORNIA

Alma Armbruster

Junior Development: San Diego held its first closed Junior tournament of the season on November 19th at the Federal Building in Balboa Park. The event drew many youngsters who are enrolled in the Junior Program which is sponsored by the San Diego Badminton Association. Virginia Lyon was in charge of the event and was ably assisted by Board members and junior players. Carol Jones, a San Diego High School Senior, was most helpful in contacting local schools for entries as well as helpful in setting up the draw sheets in a most artistic manner. Scott Sieler breezed his way to victory by winning three events. Davie and Rees Freeman, sons of world-famed Dr. Dave Freeman, reached the final round in their class. Carol Minter, playing her first badminton tournament, took the girls'

singles crown by fighting her way past her more experienced opponents.

Results

B.S.-Scott Sieler def. Nick Murphy, 15-0, 15-0. B.D.—Scott Sieler-Tom Martin def. Dick Lee-Bob Blakey, 15-8, 15-4. G.S.—Carol Minter def. Carol Jones, 11-8, 11-6. G.D.—Betsey Bess-Judy McGarry def. Barbara Werkman-Diana Sickler, 10-15, 15-6, 15-8. Mx.D.—Scott Sieler-Frances Almandres def. Rees Freeman-Carol Minter, 15-2, 15-4.

Consolation

B.S.-Russell Lyon def. Nicholas Waite, 15-6, 15-10. G.S.—Frances Almandres def. Patt French, 11-1, 11-1. B.D.—Davie and Rees Freeman def. Chub Keyes-Gary Pyle, 15-4, 15-11. G.D.—Arthuree Davis-Hattie Ware def. Pat Morgan-Lariel Porter, 15-7, 15-11. Mx.D.-Dick Lee-Betsey Bess def. Nick Murphy-Margaret McCardle, 15-13, 15-8.

MIDWEST

The Midwest Badminton Association elected George H. Brown, 422 South 20th Ave., Maywood, Illinois, president; R. H. G. Mathews, vicepresident, and Joseph Tiberi, secretary-treasurer for 1956.

Directors are Joseph N. Grant, Harold Theiston, Whitney Warner, Jr., Norbert J. Sweete, Lyman L. Mitchell, Roger A. Baird, Hugh B. Clayton, and M. J. Mathis. Others are Ted Anderson and Everett D. Gesaman.

SBA Byron W. Settle

The Southern Badminton Association elected William O. Bullock, president; Miss Elma Roane, executive vice-president, and Ben Spears, secretary-treasurer, for the forthcoming season. The three elected officers live in Memphis, Tenn. Regional vice-presidents are as follows: W. C. Braswell, Atlanta, Ga.; Jerry Tomas, Miami, Fla.; Tom Guerry, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Rick Hoppe, Memphis, Tenn.; Dr. Harmon Newman, New Orleans, La.; Stan Sangdahl, Birmingham, Ala.; Byron Settle, Roanoke, Va.

The Southern Badminton Association's Tournament will be held Mar. 23-24-25, 1956, at the Memphis State Gyms in Memphis, Tenn., and will include consolation matches in all events which will give every player at least two matches. This is something new for SBA, as far as is known. The Southern Badminton Association has the largest geographical area in the U.S.A.

OKLAHOMA

The Continental Gymnasium in Ponca City was the scene of the Annual Continental Badminton Tournament during the month of August. Fifty players entered the one day tournament with trophies being presented to winners in eight brackets.

Winners in each bracket were: Ladies' Singles: Winner, Pat Harman; Runner-up, Eleanor Round; Consolation, Jackie Gaines. Junior Boys' Singles: Winner, Bill Eaton; Runner-up, Bill Rennie; Consolation, Jackie Gaines. Ladies' Doubles: Winners, Pat Harman and Lana Harman; Runners-up, Frances Coppock and Eleanor Round; Consolation, Doris Wear and Eileen Roebuck. Vets Mixed Doubles: Winners, Frances Coppock and George Harman; Runners-up, Pat Harman and Lloyd Walser; Consolation, Eleanor Round and Les Puddy. Junior Girls' Singles: Winner, Louise Trapnell; Runner-up, Barbara Koller; Consolation, Emily Horton.

Mixed Doubles: Winners, Lana Harman and John Sudbury; Runners-up, Pat Harman and Al Roebuck; Consolation, Larry Thomas and Doris Wear Men's Singles: Winner, John Sudbury; Runner-up, Everett Erickson; Consolation, Al Roebuck; Men's Doubles, Winners, John Sudbury and Al Roebuck; Runners-up, Scott Hunt and Everett Erickson; Consolation, Larry Thomas and Lloyd Walser.

U.S. PLAYERS WIN THREE **EVENTS** Ted Jarrett

Twelve United States players attended the Annual Invitational Tournament at the Montreal A.A.A. recently. Boston was represented by Wayne Schell, Bob Wright, Bob Henderson and Al Warner; the New York Metropolitan area sent Rosine Capehart, Joan Hodgman, Don Kerr, Ken Mansuy and Ted Jarrett; from the Niagara Falls area came Bob Williams and Fred Cartmell. The most important absentee was Peg Varner, a former winner at Montreal, who has not gotten back into competition since her return from the strenuous tour of South Africa.

Although the tournament also lacked a number of the top Canadian men from the Toronto area, such as Don Smythe, Bud Porter and Bill Purcell, it drew most of the top women in Eastern Canada, headed by Marge Shedd (former Dominion Singles Champion), Kay Grant and Joan Warren, and also Jean Waring of Calgary, the current champion.

Results of the finals:

L.S.-Marge Shedd def. Jean Waring. M.S.—Bob Williams def. Gordie Simpson. L.D.—Shedd-Warren def. Grant-Miller. M.D.-Williams-Cartmell def. Kirkconnell-Martin. Mx.D.-Simpson-Shedd def. Schell-Elder. Vet.D.-Wright-Henderson def. Wood-Silva.

CALIFORNIA National Champs Upset Jack van Praag

The Fifteenth Annual Manhattan Beach Badminton Tournament drew to a close with one major upset registered when National Mixed Doubles Champions Wynn Rogers and Dottie Hann of the Pasadena Badminton Club lost a hard-fought match to their clubmates Mike Hatrgrove and Helen Tibbetts, 9-15, 15-13, 15-10. Joe Alston came through as expected to defeat Hartgrove, 15-2, 15-8, in singles. Alston then joined Rogers to win the men's doubles title by defeating Hartgrove and Mannie Armendariz, 15-6, 15-7. The tournament was run in two separate flights. Complete summary of results follows.

"A" Flight

M.S.—Alston def. Hartgrove, 15-2, 15-8. L.S.—Thelma Welcome def. Beulah Bymaster, 12-10, 11-4. M.D.—Alston-Rogers def. Armendariz-Hartgrove, 15-6, 15-7. L.D.—Bymaster-Hann def. Tibbetts-Jean Gibbs, 15-8, 15-8. Mx.D.—Hartgrove-Tibbetts def. Rogers-Hann, 9-15, 15-13, 15-10. Vet.D.—Coke-Lockwood def. Wilkinson-McArthur, 15-5, 17-14.

"B" Flight

M.S.—Sergio Fraustro def. Don Connors, 15-4, 15-2. L.S.—Baby Vivanco def. Ramona Gunner, 11-5, 11-2. M.D.—Fagelson-Foy def. Wells-Searle, 13-15, 15-5, 15-8. L.D.-Martinez-Vivanco def. Gardner-Wells, 15-4, 15-5. Mx.D.—Dick van Praag-Laurie Cook def. Olson-Mitchell, 15-4, 15-11.

Pasadena, Calif.—The Buzz Martins announce the arrival of Gregory David on December 18 at the Huntington Memorial Hospital. Mrs. Martin is the former Jacqueline Bacon. Jackie and Buzz are members of the Pasadena Badminton Club.

Chicago, Ill.-Marilyn Milkey and Clayton Hayley were married on November 5th at the Central Park Methodist Church. The Hayleys honeymooned in Florida.

Chicago, Ill.—Vera Robb and Otto Spits are now Mr. and Mrs. They will live in Vienna where Otto has recently been transferred.

Dallas, Tex.—It was good to hear from Mrs. Joe M. Landtroop (formerly Peggy Vilbig) and to learn that Peggy is planning to get back to badminton soon. The Landtroops would like their friends to know they now have a second son born in October and named Stephen Charles.



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WESTERN NEW YORK

Ethel Marshall

Newly elected officers of the Western New York Badminton Association are: John Kloss, president; Ethel Marshall, 1st vice-president; Ed. Lindsay, 2nd vice-president; and Dick Harvey, secretary-treasurer.

The Association represents 13 badminton clubs in the Western New York area, and has on its official roster Representatives Phil Michlin, Rochester District; Hazel Garofalo, Syracuse District, and Joan Dean, Dunkirk District.

Western N.Y. Tournament Schedule

Toronto and District "A"—January 26-28, 1956

Western Ontario Championships — January 27-28

Niagara Falls, Ontario Invitation— February 3-5

Ontario Junior Tournament, Niagara Falls, Ontario, February 9-11

Central Ontario Senior — Trenton, February 10-11

Ontario Senior Championships—February 14-19

Niagara Falls Country Club Invitational (tentative), February 24-26 Central Ontario Open—March 2-3 Canadian Championships — Calgary, March 7-10

Western New York A.B.C.—March

Granite Club Invitation—March 12-

Kodak Invitation—Rochester (tentative), March 23-25

Niagara Falls Country Club Closed — (tentative), Mar. 30-31, Apr. 1

WASHINGTON

Carl Andersen

The Seattle Annual City Badminton Championships found Don Davis the winner of all three events. Don defeated Rupe Topp, 15-3, 15-3, to win the singles crown, and teamed with Rupe to win the men's doubles crown from Henry Mahnkey and Carl Anderson by a score of 15-13, 15-8. In mixed doubles, Don teamed with Donna Connolly to defeat Bob Deacon and Vi Andersen, 15-4, 15-6. Don was a member of the team representing the United States in South Africa early in the season.

Other scores: L.D.-Marge Gould-

Mary Bushell def. Virginia Andersen-Joyce Jones, 15-10, 15-11; Vet. doubles—Clarence Olson-Bob Deacon def. Joe Johnson-Dion Routh, 15-8, 7-15, 15-11.

SAN DIEGO "B" Jack van Praag

Co-sponsored by the San Diego Badminton Association and the City Park and Recreation Department was the San Diego Open "B" Badminton Tournament concluded recently at the Federal Building in Balboa Park. Results of the "A" Flight follows:

M.S.—Chuck Fagelson def. Don Connor, 1-15, 15-7, 15-13. L.S.—Dianne Ivie def. Jane Phillips, 11-5, 11-4. M.D.—Ebenkamp-Paup def. D. van Praag-Dingle, 9-15, 15-10, 17-14. L.D.—Ivie-Phillips def. Skelley-Mitchell, 18-13, 15-8. Mx.D.—Starkey-Ivie def. Fagelson-Kincaid by default. Vet.D.—Auxier-Janes def. Jack van Praag-Giles, 15-7, 15-12.

"B" Flight

M.S. — Larry Almandras def. Alfred Hales, 15-12, 15-6. M.D. — Rahenkamp-Moore def. Giles-Giles, 15-5, 10-15, 15-8. L.D.—Auxier-Gardner def. Ingram-Mattinson, 17-14, 15-4. Mx.D. — Schwitkis-Armbruster def. Mattinson, Mattinson, 9-15, 15-2, 15-12. Vet.D.—Armbruster-Almandres def. Wilson-Mattinson, 15-9, 15-5.

4th Win for Rutledge

Everett D. Gesaman

The 1955-56 edition of the Michigan Open Badminton Tournament, one of the oldest tournaments in the Midwest, sponsored by the Detroit Badminton Club, was held Saturday and Sunday, December 3-4, 1955, on the five beautiful Ford Recreation Center courts in Dearborn, a suburb of Detroit.

The play was closely contested and produced some exciting matches, new champs being crowned in men's singles, doubles and vets.

The women's singles title was won for the fourth consecutive time by the talented instructor from Purdue, Abbie Rutledge. After taking the first game, 11-4, she found herself trailing 0-8 in the second, but after a nip and tuck affair she drew even at 9 all and won out 12-10.

The men's singles found last year's champion, Fred Trifonoff of Detroit, dethroned by our good neighbor from Mexico, Fernando Molinar, who is now at Purdue, in a hotly contested semi-final match, 15-13, 18-14, only to be defeated in the finals by Vic Pritula from Detroit, 15-12, 15-10.

The women's doubles followed last year's pattern with the delightful and most expert pair of Ethel Marshall and Bea Massman from Buffalo dominating play with a 15-7, 15-3 win over the Midwest's top women's doubles combination from Chicago, Thelma Burdick and Eleanor Coambs.

The men's doubles was won by a new combination of William Anderson and Victor Pritula from Detroit, over a pickup team of Earl Boston, Chicago, and Harry Drewry, Detroit, 15-9, 15-10. Earl was scheduled to play with Jim Wigglesworth, but Jim was grounded by bad flying weather which forced him to remain in Chicago. Harry had not entered the doubles, but very graciously stepped into the vacant spot at the last minute, and played valiantly despite the fact he and Earl had never been on the same side of the net before and that he was facing his former partner of long-standing, Bill Anderson.

Detroit's own ever-popular Mary Connor and Bill Anderson had an uphill fight to retain their mixed doubles title and the beautiful Rees Cramer Memorial Trophy to down the strong Chicago pair of Boston and Coambs, 10-15, 15-12, 15-9.

The vets title was won by Jerry Burns and Drewry, Deroit, over Bert Fish and George Geever, Chicago, 15-13, 15-8.

One of the highlights of the tournament, and one apparently enjoyed tremendously by everyone, contestant and spectator, was the buffet supper served sans cost between the quarter-final and semi-final matches Saturday evening. The food was prepared and served by the women of the Detroit Badminton Club under the direction of Mrs. Geraldine Gesaman, who also headed the lunch counter which served food throughout the entire tournament. (Thanks, honey, this is your pay!)

Finals

Women's Singles — Rutledge def. Sirwaitis, 11-4, 12-10.

Men's Singles-Pritula def. Molinar, 15-12, 15-10.

Women's Doubles—Marshall-Massman def. Coambs-Burdick, 15-7, 15-3.

Men's Doubles—Anderson-Pritula def. Boston-Drewry, 15-9, 15-10.

Mixed Doubles—Anderson-Connor def. Boston-Coambs, 10-15, 15-12, 15-9.

Vets Doubles-Burns-Drewry def. Geever-Fish, 15-13, 15-8.



Word has gone out that Eddy Choong will engage in very little competitive badminton this season due to the demands of his studies. He will, however, stay in condition and will practice in an endeavor to recapture his former All-England Championship honors.

ABA SANCTIONED TOURNEYS Received after Deadline

Feb. 25-26—Chicago District Championships, Chicago, Ill.

Feb. 25—Md. State Junior Tourney (under 13), Baltimore, Md.

Mar. 3—Md. State Junior Tourney (under 15), Baltimore, Md.

Mar. 10-11—Md. State Junior Tourney (under 18), Baltimore, Md.

Fun with Badminton

Francie Hubbard

Around turkey time this year the Minneapolis and St. Paul Slam Club decided to try something new and different in badminton. It is the usual custom to award trophies to the winners of a badminton tournament, but this time the trophy was a far cry from a gold cup.

The Friday before Thanksgiving a tournament was scheduled by the Slam Club in which the goal was to be amusement only and the first prize was a turkey. Unlike other badminton matches, it was not necessary to have national ranking, potential power, or even a racket, that is, providing you could borrow one for the occasion. Likewise, it was not those who were particularly talented in the sport that would necessarily win the prize, although there were many talented players entered.

A dollar and a half fee for those who were not members of the Midway YMCA of St. Paul and a dollar fee for those who were members was the only qualification for the tournament. With an equal number of boys and girls, and the leadership of Jack Hansen, director of the Midway YM CA, the tournament was under way.

The ideas for this type of contest originated from bridge and canasta games in which you move from table to table, changing partners each time, and accumulating points along the way. At the end of the game, that person who possesses the most points is declared the winner. A similar method was used in this tournament.

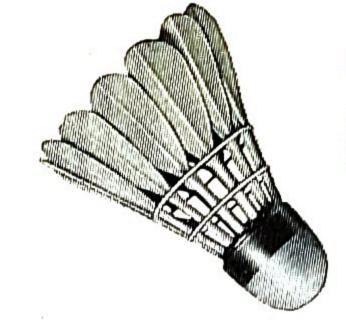
Four teams were established, titled the red, green, yellow, and blue teams. Each team consisted of four boys and four girls chosen at random. A tag bearing the color of his team was worn by each player.

Each match consisted not of the usual fifteen point game but a ten minute period, regardless of the score at the end of this period. Each girl on the team became the partner of each boy on the team just once during the tournament. At the end of a match the girl and the boy awarded themselves the number of points won by both during that particular bout; then each moved on to a new partner on the same team, against partners of an opposing team.

When everyone had played an equal number of times, each person totaled his scores, and a turkey was presented to the girl and the boy holding the highest score. The scores of the four

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Sets the pace in Badminton



teams were then totaled and to each member of the team with the highest score went a small prize. The tournament was a non-profit affair, and the fees went entirely toward prizes and a good time.

BADMINTON ANYONE?

from the

Needham Chronicle, Needham, Mass.

Badminton is a true winter sport and conditioner and is one of the few sports in which "mama" can and often does outsmart "papa," and is also a game in which both can unite to show the youngsters that they can still learn a thing or two from the so-called "oldsters."

A badminton "bird" (shuttlecock) has also been described as a "varmint," more elusive than a Russian promise, more contrary than two neighbors at a benefit bridge, more vexatious than a Mass. "skeeter," capable of zigging when it should be zagging, a jump ahead when you a jump behind, positively "is" where you negatively 'ain't," more intriguing than a downhill golf lie (or the lie which usually follows), more fun than a bag of fleas.

Get on the band wagon; stay young. (Call the Parks Department in your city for information).

OREGON

(from the Oregon News Letter)

This year Oregon Badminton Association is setting up a new system for appointing a tournament committee. The committee will be composed of a member and an alternate from each club in the Association with Russ Hill acting as chairman. Committee members are: Reed Badminton Club, John Rankin and Myrle Hoffman; Multnomah Club, two to be cornered (we'll catch them yet); Beaumont Club, Flo Weidel and Larry Gillen; Columbia Club, Seth George and Chuck Corbin.

Oregon Badminton Association president, John Rankin, after "vacationing" for the summer in the Pribiloff Islands, returned in time to preside at the October board meeting.

JOKE: Eager novice to slicker, after losing five points on wood shots and clean misses: "Badminton is a funny game." Slicker (not smiling): "It isn't meant to be."

THE 1955 - 1956 HAND BOOK of the

I. B. F.

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The Ladies' Trophy

Since the proposal to institute the international competition for ladies was approved, an offer to donate a trophy for the contest has been made by Mrs. H. S. Uber. Her generous gift will undoubtedly be accepted. It may be remembered that several years ago when the idea of a ladies' event was first mooted by Mrs. Uber, she then offered to present a cup. At the time it was not considered that the game was yet ready for a ladies' competition, but the Council of the Federation agreed then that when the time was considered ripe, Mrs. Uber should be given the first opportunity of presenting a trophy if she still desired to do so.

To few badminton players and followers does Mrs. Betty Uber require any introduction, for her fame as a player has spread to all corners of the universe where the game is played. There are many who regard her as the greatest woman player of all time, and though comparisons between one playing generation and another are far too difficult to make, there is substantial testimony to the justice of the claim.

A winner of countless championships in many countries, Mrs. Uber's name will be found on the championship lists, in singles, doubles and mixed, in almost all the countries where she has played during her lengthy career. Her honors include 13 All-England titles, 12 Irish, 17 Scottish, as well as national championships in France, South Africa and Wales. But her greatest record is perhaps that of having won all her first fifty international matches for England, and this over a span of 21 years, which is usually a period far in excess of that of a normal international career. In all, Mrs. Uber played for England over the whole of a quarter of a century, and her 37 international appearances constitute a record for the whole world.

GOLDEN BIRD WINNERS



A. Sikorski, N. Werle, T. Anderson

Ladies' International Championship

(from the IBF Handbook for 1954-55, H. A. E. Scheele, Editor)

This article has been edited for *Bird* Chatter by Claude Welcome, 1st Vice President of the A.B.A.

A year ago the Council of the I.B.F. gave thought to the suggestion that the time had now come for the institution of a competition similar to that for the Thomas Cup, only for ladies teams. Schemes as to its methods were considered by the Executive Committee of the Federation, and the results of these deliberations were put to the last annual general meeting. The most favorable was approved almost without dissent, so that the Ladies' International Championship will be launched in the northern hemisphere season of 1956-57.

Basically the competition will be similar to that for the Thomas Cup. There will be preliminary play in four zones. The competition will be held triennially. The teams will have a minimum of four players and a maximum of six. The finals of the first playoff will be held in Great Britain.

Each complete Tie will be made up of seven matches (the singles matches between three players on each team ranked in order of merit and four doubles matches between two pairs per side) instead of nine matches as in Thomas Cup. Also the entire Tie will be played in one day, instead of two days.

There will be the same four zones as for the Thomas Cup; it will be obviously essential for play in the Asiatic and Australasian Zones to commence during the middle months of 1956 at the latest.

Next Deadline For Bird Chatter

Feb. 10, 1956

United States Open Amateur Championships

April 4, 5, 6 & 7, 1956

IN

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

at

St. Joseph's Field House

Defense Hugh Forgie

One of the main reasons that most players have difficulty on the defense is that they cannot clear full length to the back-line "off" the smash. They are guilty of sticking out their racket and blocking the shuttlecock, thus returning it so that it can easily be put away by a second or third smash.

When on the defense, you are best suited to be waiting with a "thumbup" back-hand preparation. In this manner you can cover the major part of your court, as, with the backhand, you can defend your body and all the shots to your left, switching only to the forehand on shots to the right of you. You have slightly more time to hit the shuttlecock than you realize. Learn to gauge your timing so that whenever the shuttlecock is within range, you can throw the head of the racket through at the smash, so that the shuttlecock is sent high and deep to the opponent's baseline. You must also be able to drive and to play a

quick cross court net shot off the smash. These shots can also be made off the forehand by using the defensive forehand preparation. In learning these types of returns, you will be able to avoid playing into the rackets of your attacking opponents.

Provided that you have a good eye, it often pays to move forward a little from your base when you anticipate an attacking shot. In this way you can intercept and return the shuttlecock before the attacker has recovered his balance. In a low, fast and close rally, take note of the angle at which your own shot has crossed the net; the return is, more often than not, along the same line of flight. When one of these fast drive-for-drive rallies develops, a quick change of pace invariably brings an advantage. This is effected by a drop, or less frequently by a clear.

Incidentally, in doubles, drives are most effective, when driven straight into the face or shoulders of the opponent.

COURT TACTICS

(Continued from Page 8)

est use of all shots. Again the basic principle is the attack which is here effected by use of the smash, drive and quickly delivered drop. The half-court is exceedingly useful in bringing about opportunities to attack.

It is interesting to note that a shuttlecock can, by a well timed blow, be struck off the racket at the rate of 75 miles an hour, and yet the greatest distance it will travel is appoximately 47 feet. Obviously the deceleration is great. The longer the shuttlecock is in flight, the slower it becomes. Catagorically speaking then, the straight ahead shots, being the shortest distances, are the quickest and as a result, the most effective. The cross courts, which are in flight longer, because of the greater distance, are used only for variation and placement.

The corollary to this theory is that the "straight ahead shots" are the basis of each of the games; singles, doubles and mixed doubles, while cross courts are used in variation and placement.

National Junior CHAMPIONSHIPS March 24-25-26

Grosse Pointe High School GROSSE POINTE, MICH.

Elementary Advice On Smashing

Lealand Gustavson

Learn to smash and smash decisively. It is your most effective offensive shot and the shot your opponent is trying not to give you.

Though you may not smash every time the shuttle is hit up, the fact that you possess an effective smash keeps your opponent back in his court away from the net, thus leaving the forecourt open for you to play into. It frequently causes him to attempt a shot that is difficult for him to execute rather than to whack the shuttle up into a mid-court setup. In order to execute a good smash, position your body back of the shuttle, left side toward the net. Anchor your feet solidly, if possible, pivot at the waist and wind up on the back-swing like a baseball pitcher, with your body weight mostly on your right foot. As the shuttle approaches, shift your body weight forward onto your left foot and feel the muscles of your entire left side pulling your right shoulder around.

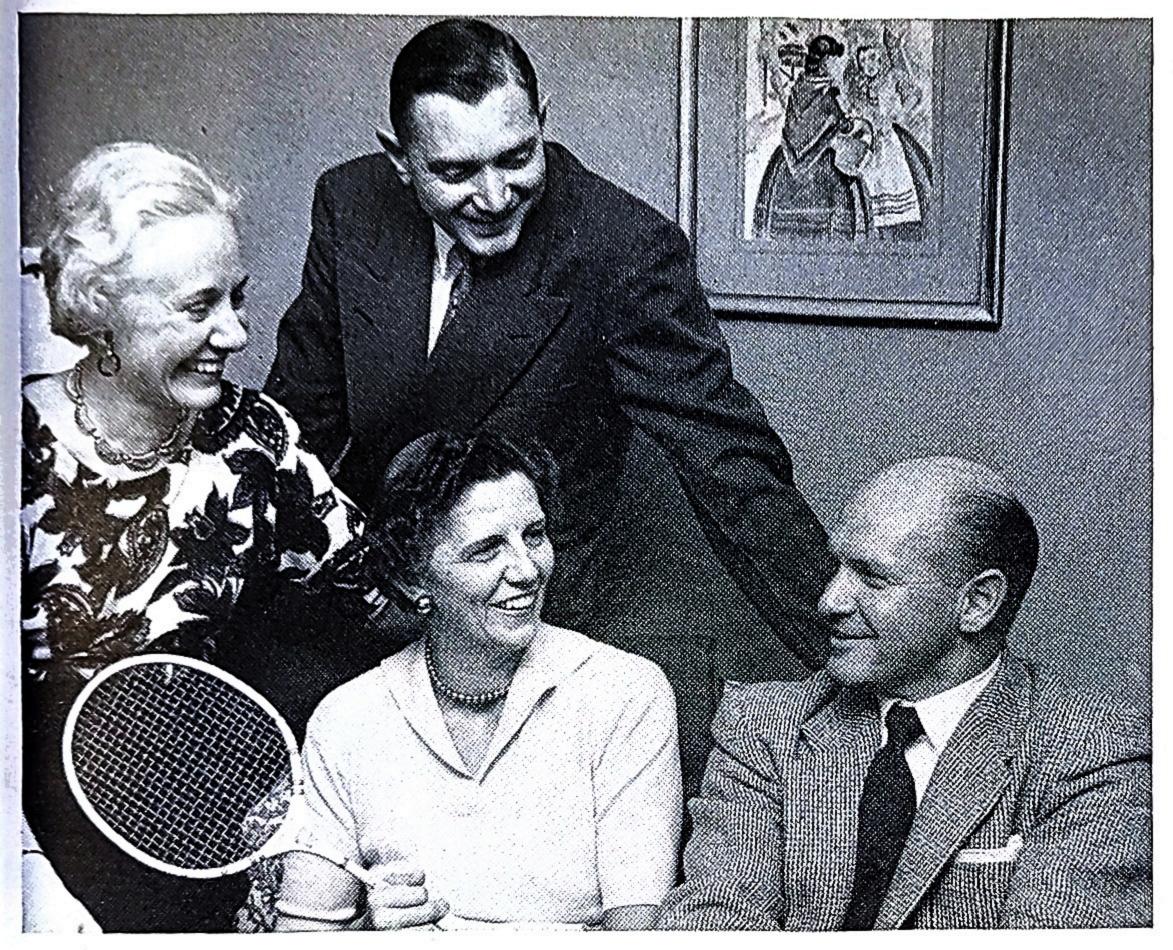
In the action the muscles of the left side, leg, hip and back pull the striking arm forward and through and give you the strong hitting force. The arm, wrist and fingers must add their speed but they alone are most inadequate. Lefties reverse these positions.

At the point of impact the legs, body, arm and racket are all extended in a straight line with the face of the racket square to the line of intended flight, meaning a downward angle that will cause the shuttle to just clear the net. It is the angle of the racket face that determines the line of flight of the shuttle and that angle is always most important. The point of contact must be well in front of your front foot.

Smash with accuracy. Learn to hit the spot you mean to hit by placing a towel on the floor, having a partner feed you high clears and smashing at the towel until you have perfected the shot. When you can hit the towel every time change to a handkerchief.

It is most discouraging to have an opponent hand you a point by clearing badly and then you smash in to the net or over the lines. Games are lost easily that way.

CHARLOTTE CLUB HAS VISITOR



Left to Right: Mrs. Phillip Pindell, Dr. L. W. Kelly, Jr., Julia Pickens, Hugh Forgie

After an evening performance in Ice Capades in the fabulous new Charlotte, North Carolina, Coliseum, Hugh Forgie met informally with members of the Charlotte Badminton

Club, for whom he had played exhibition matches in 1940 and 1941. Hugh's partner in the Ice Capades act is Stig Larson.

FROM THE OFFICIAL RULES BOOK OF THE ABA

SCORING—(a) The doubles and men's singles game consists of 15 or 21 points, as may be arranged. Provided that in a game of 15 points, when the score is 13 all, the side which first reached 13 has the option of "setting" the game to 5, and that when the score is 14 all, the side which first reached 14 has the option of "setting" the game to 3. After a game has been "set" the score is called "love all," and the side which first scores 5 or 3 points, according as the game has been "set" at 13 or 14 all, wins the game. In either case the claim to "set" the game must be made before the next service is delivered after the score has reached 13 all or 14 all. Provided also that in a game of 21 points the same method of scoring be adopted, substituting 19 and 20 for 13 and 14.

(b) The ladies' single game consists of 11 points. Provided that when the score is "9 all" the player who first reached 9 has the option of "set-

ting" the game to 3, and when the score is "10 all" the player who first reached 10 has the option of "setting" the game to 2.

(c) A side rejecting the option of "setting" at the first opportunity shall not be thereby debarred from "setting" if a second opportunity arises.

(d) In handicap games "setting" is not permitted.

Testing a shuttle—A shuttle shall be deemed to be of correct pace (or flight) if, when a player of average strength strikes it with a full underhand stroke from a spot immediately above one back boundary line in a line parallel to the side lines, and at an upward angle, it falls not less than I foot, and not more than 2 feet 6 inches, short of the other back boundary line.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 7)

"hitch-hiked" to the park or some distant field; they practiced basketball in a dozen different gyms a season. They lit the sports spark.

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MIDWESTERN BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL RANKINGS FOR 1955

OFFICIAL KANKINGS FOR 1955				
LADIES' SINGLES	MEN'S DOUBLES			
1. Abbie Rutledge	1. Earl Boston			
1. Ted Moehlman, JrWebster B.C. (St. Louis) 2. Victor PritulaDetroit B.C.	MIXED DOUBLES			
3. Harry Drewry Detroit B.C. 4. Tom Heden University B.C. (Minneapolis) 5. Fred Trifinoff Detroit B.C. 6. Roy Nusbaum South Bend B.C. 7. Bruce Bedford Detroit B.C. 8. Norm Atchinson Moreland B.C. (Cleveland) LADIES' DOUBLES 1. Thelma Burdick Altgeld Park B.C. (Chicago) Eleanor Coambs Evanston B.C. 2. Abbie Rutledge Purdue University B.C. Mildred Sirwaitis Detroit B.C.	1. Abbie Rutledge			
3. Mary Connor - Gerry HengelDetroit B.C.	1. Ken Aderholt-H. Herpel Perkins Webster (St. Louis)			
4. Norma Pritula	2. Jerry Burns Detroit B.C. Joseph Tiberi Altgeld Park B.C. (Chicago) 3. Lambert Fish Skokie B.C. George Geever Detroit B.C. 4. Harry Drewry-Ted Brooks Detroit B.C. 5. Hap Burdick-John Franczak Altgeld Park (Chicago)			
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From the MAIL BAG ...

Dear Ed.:

The quality of "Bird Chatter" has greatly increased. However, last year I received only two issues, namely, November and April, I believe. I wish that this year I could receive all the issues to which I am entitled.

Robert L. Rice, III, Va.

Dear Ed .:

We have recently organized a new Badminton Club here, with 50 playing members, and I am certain a number of these will enter subscriptions after they have had an opportunity to look over my copy.

C. B. Gwyn, Jr., Attleboro, Mass.

Dear Ed.:

I wish to congratulate you on the wonderful job you are doing! It is a thrill to see familiar faces and names in the issues.

Joanne Nelson, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Ed.:

The enclosed check is for two 1955-56 subscriptions to Bird Chatter. I want to put the additional copies on the bulletin board at our club—hoping to promote interest and more subscriptions for you.

Bill Quittman, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Ed .:

We are still living in Wichita, Kans., and don't get much chance to play badminton as I have to drive 90 miles to Ponca City, Okla., to do so, but I would still like to get Bird Chatter.

Please say "hello" to all the gang at Glendale for me.

Bert Rawak

Dear Ed .:

Enclosed you will find our check for thirty-five dollars. It is for thirtyfive subscriptions to Bird Chatter for the 1955-56 season.

Gloria Eli, Flint, Mich. Flint Badminton Club

Dear Ed .:

Please renew my subscription to Bird Chatter. My new address is: Harvard Business School, Chase E-32, Boston 63, Mass.

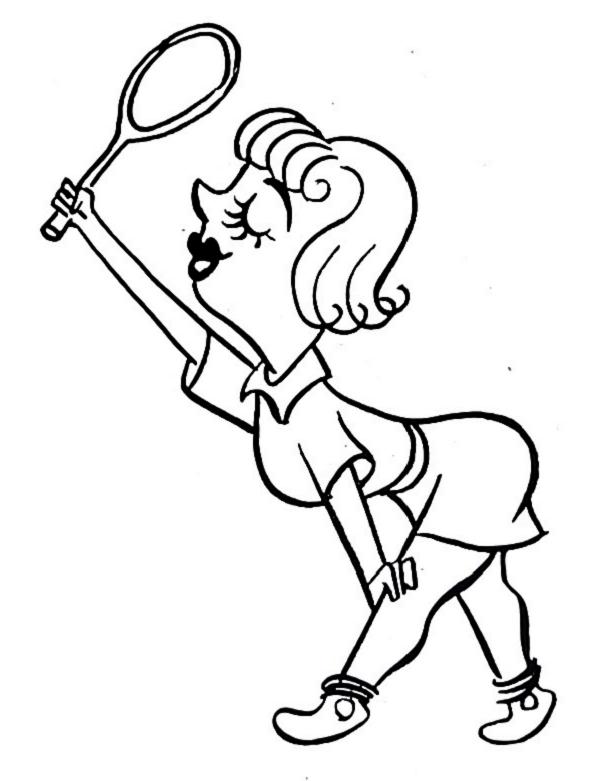
Stephen F. Hinchliffe, Jr. formerly of Calif.

Dear Ed.:

Don't you feel you would get just as many subscriptions at \$2 a year? You could then possibly expand, send some free copies to institutions, etc.

Taylor Caffery, New Orleans, La.

(Ed note: During the past season we have sent over 200 free copies to High Schools, Colleges, new clubs, whether they are members of the ABA or not, and to various sports editors and announcers.)



Dear Ed.:

Players from the Tedesco Badminton Club, Marblehead, Mass., including myself, enjoy your magazine very much and we are all looking forward to a successful season. Our membership includes the National Junior Girls' Doubles Champions, Nancy Metcalfe and Norma Slauer, and the runner-up for the Girls' Singles title, Miss Slauer, who is also one-half of the Mixed Doubles Championship team. Needless to say, we are extremely proud of these junior competitors.

Thanking you for your kind consideration, and wishing you continued success with your fine publication, I am,

Marian Goodhue, Swampscott, Mass.

Dear Ed.:

You are doing a fine job with Bird Chatter.

J. M. Rhodes, Wilmington, Del.

Dear Mrs. Miller:

Enclosed is a list of the names and addresses of the members of the Gut'n Feathers Club (75). Please enter a subscription for each of these members and send the bill to our treasurer, Richard P. Northey.

We shall be delighted to furnish you from time to time with news about our club, if it appears to be worthy of publication.

Raymond W. Ellis

A Few "Reminiscences" With The Renewal Subscription

In 1920 I was a member of the Vancouver, B.C., Rowing Club—we had a big gym and someone got the idea of playing badminton in the winter. I joined in with a dozen others.

I moved to Seattle and played in the Queen Ann Badminton Club.

I later moved to San Francisco where my wife and I played in the St. Francis Badminton Club.

Later we moved to Marin County and played at the Marin Junior College Gym. The star girl player was Shirley Fry of Wimbledon and Forest Hills tennis fame. We met Reg Hill in San Francisco — he was a great player, but as well a charming and gracious person. Jess Willard from Boston was the first pro in San Francisco and I often wonder where he is now. I have forgotten the name of the Canadian pro in Pasadena about 1938. Colin (Noel) Radford, I believe, was a Southern California pro. An article in "Bird Chatter" about the old-timers would be interesting.

I first saw the great Freeman at the Golden Gate Fair at Treasure Island, San Francisco, in 1939. Before him, I believe Hock Ong from Malaya was the best player to play in S.F. Bay area. He was at the University of California. I still have a Slazenger "Georgia" racket from Canada about 1937. I think the racket I liked best was a Bancroft "Reg. Hill."

I have played rugby—gone in for rowing, sailing, ice skating and skiing, but I think I get more fun out of badminton than out of the other sports—hence these reminiscences. Best wishes to Bird Chatter.

George Ingram

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