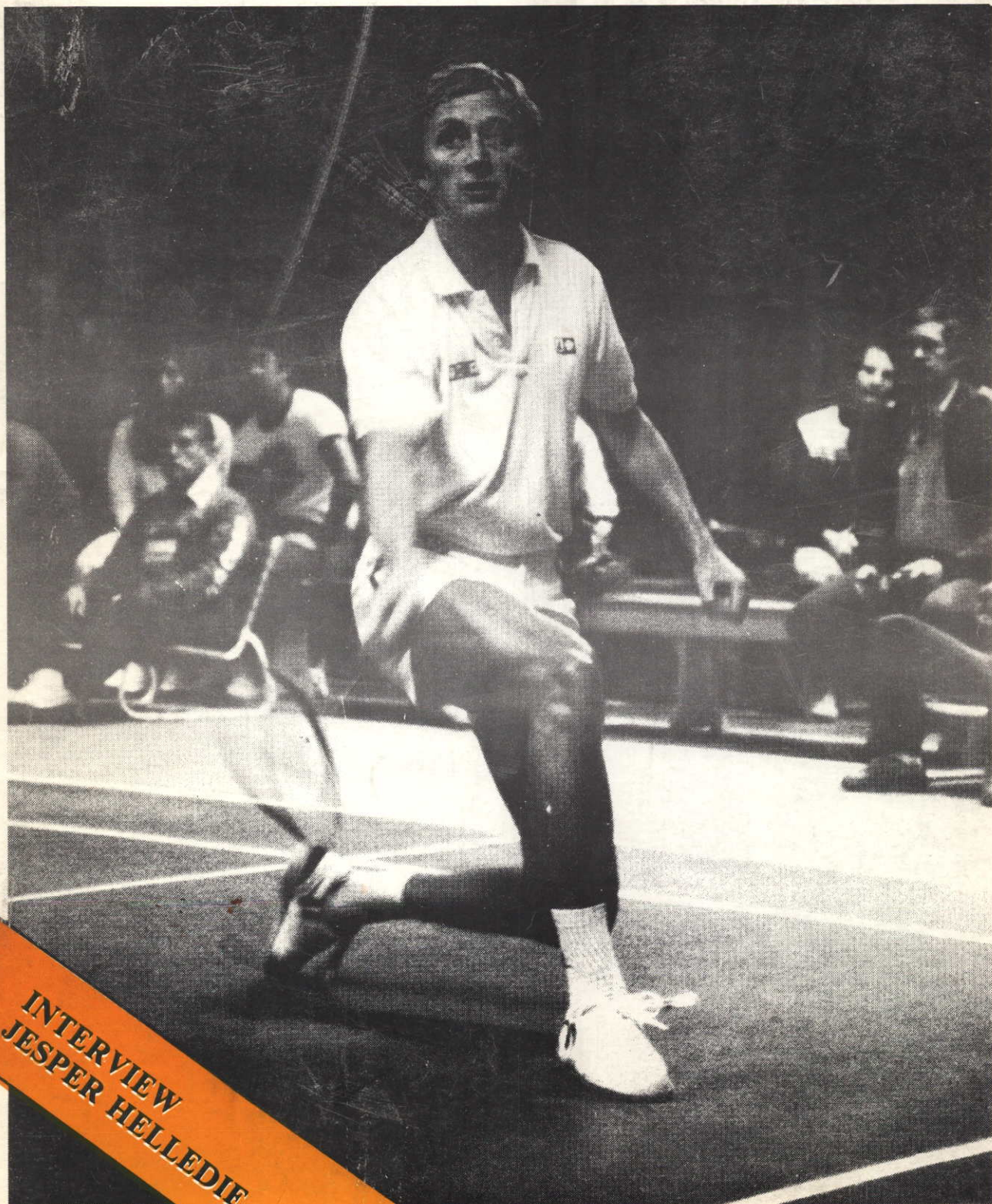


# The BADMINTON Magazine

VOL. 1, NO. 9

FEB 1986



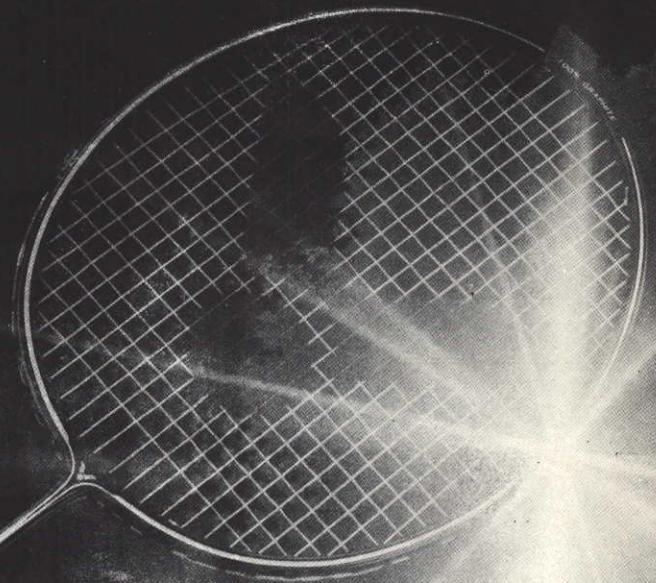
**INTERVIEW**  
with **JESPER HELLEDIE**

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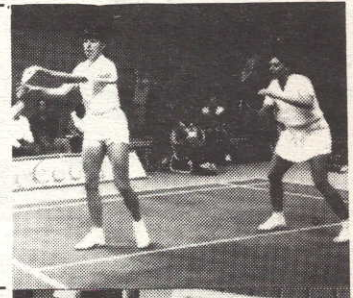
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Once again they came, they saw, they conquered -- the Canadians that is. Only Britton and Higgins were able to stop a Canadian clean sweep.



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Internationally, one of the premier men's doubles players. A 1983 World Champion title -- this Dane is a force to be reckoned with.



### THE RATINGS ARE IN. . . 18

U. S. Badminton players have always wondered where they stand in the ratings... now for the first time you can find out. Thanks to Len Hill!



Publishers: David H. Levin, W. Guy Chadwick  
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Copy Editor: Tom Siebert  
Cover Photo: Bill Foy  
Logo Design: Charles Elay  
ISSN Number: 0747-9069

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PHOTO: BILL FOY

**U.S. OPEN 1985  
CANADA DOMINATES  
TOURNAMENT**

Mike Butler led the sensational Canadian national team as it won four of the five titles at the U. S. OPEN at Manhattan Beach. The only chink in their armour -- the flamboyant U.S. Men's Doubles team of John Britton and Gary Higgins.

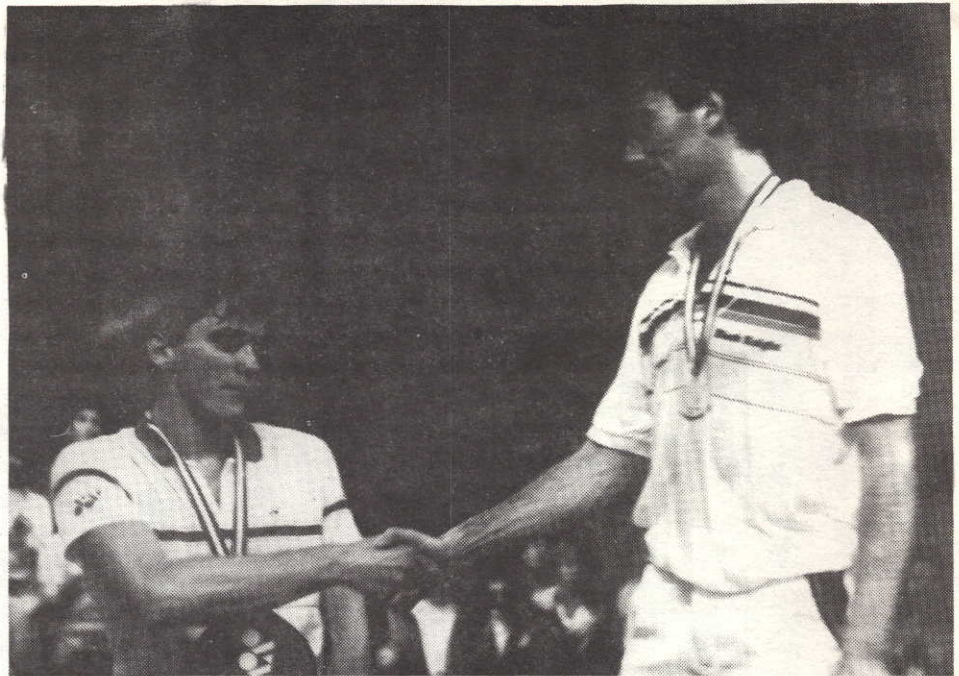
Butler and fellow Canadian Claire Backhouse Sharp amply demonstrated why they were the #1 seeds. Butler won two titles and Sharp won three. Sharp cruised to the singles crown, shared the mixed doubles title with Butler and, with partner Sandra Skillings, also won the women's doubles. The Canadians reigned supreme, but many other countries also were well represented and the November 14th-17th tournament produced many exciting matchups.

### MEN'S SINGLES

Butler clearly was the class of the tournament. He methodically gunned down quality U.S., Peruvian, Danish, and Canadian opponents. At age 24 Butler continues to gather valuable international experience and shows consistent improvement with each U.S. appearance.

Currently in the midst of an 8 - stop international tournament tour, Butler has systematically honed his game to a world class level. His recent tournament victory over world ranked Louis Pongoh of Indonesia and his U.S. OPEN successes, including a semi finals victory over the very smooth Jesper Helledie of Denmark, 15-3, 15-9, are sufficient proof.

Butler's singles final domination over fellow Canadian and #5 seed Ken Poole was total at 15-2, 15-1, but perhaps gave some consolation to #2 U.S. ranked Tony Alston, who had lost to Butler in the quarterfinals 15-6, 15-8.



*BUTLER congratulated by JOHN GOSS*

~~~~~  
~~~~~  
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Poole had provided a lot of fireworks earlier. In the semifinals, he upset the #2 seed Canadian John Goss "much easier than expected" 15-6, 15-10. Goss had earlier beaten U.S. National Champion Chris Jogis 15-8, 15-9 and #4 U.S. ranked Gary Higgins 15-9, 15-10.

In what was undoubtedly the most exciting singles match of the tournament, Poole upset #3 seed Yao Ximing of China in the quarterfinals. Though Yao specializes in men's doubles -- in which he's a former World Champion -- his amazing jump smash and court quickness measured against Poole's excellent defense provided for explosive and grueling rallies from beginning to end. Poole was finally able to thwart his adversary with some tight net

shots and accurate smashing in the clutch final points of their intensely fought third game--15-6, 10-15, 17-15.

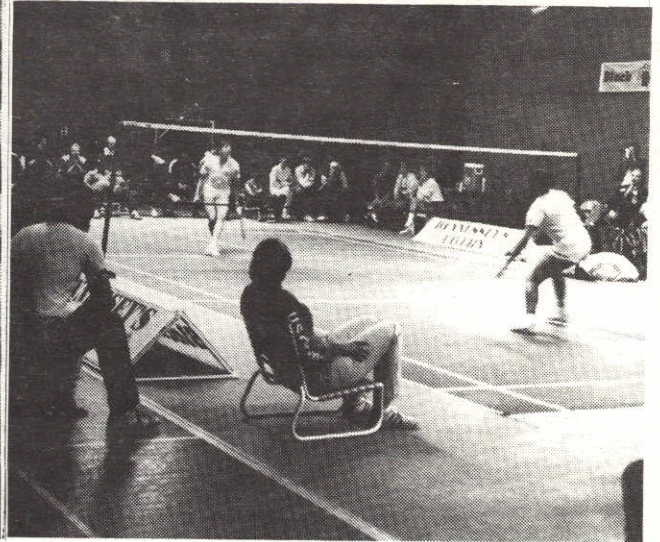
### WOMEN'S SINGLES

Much like Butler, Sharp was a dominating force with her quick left-handed shots and her excellent foot speed. Sharp easily dispensed with semifinalist and #2 U.S. ranked Joy Kitzmiller. Earlier Kitzmiller had upset the #4 seed Canadian Barbara Houde 12-11, 5-11, 11-6 in a tough second round match.

On the other side of the draw, Sharp's women's doubles partner, Skillings, also was making a killing. Virtually uncontested enroute to the finals, their meeting provided quite a show. Skillings determination



A "smashing" women's singles final



made the match one of the best played in recent U. S. OPENS.

Both hit strong clears and smashes, and showed excellent shot selection. Their overall physical fitness was proof of the serious training and continued improvement of the Canadian national team members.

In the end, Skillings unforced errors did her in late in the third game while she was making a gallant try at a comeback after trailing 10-5. Sharp repulsed the attack 11-6, 8-11, 11-8, and she could then focus on her remaining two finals.

#### WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Combining the best two women's singles players of the tournament as a doubles team provided Sharp and Skillings with the #1 seed -- and too many weapons for any opponents to ward off. Their counter-attacking defense and steady offense were far more

consistent than even their closest rivals, and they easily prevailed over unseeded fellow countrywomen Hill and Bailey in the finals 15-5, 15-5.

The real excitement had come in Hill and Bailey's semifinal match against the pick-up team of Kitzmiller and Lolk. Nina Lolk is from Denmark and is currently attending Arizona State University on a badminton scholarship. Kitzmiller and Lolk already had upset the top Peruvian team and the #3 seed Canadian team of Houde and Piche. Kitzmiller and Lolk seemed to possess the talent and momentum, but they could not muster quite enough consistency and fell to the Canadians -- 6-15, 15-9, 15-12.

#### MIXED DOUBLES

Although many fine singles players have difficulty transferring their talents into the mixed doubles arena, that is certainly not the case with Butler and Sharp.

The blend of Butler's effortless court coverage and nearly faultless shot placement, in tandem with Sharp's quickness and strength, makes them the #1 mixed doubles pairing in the Western Hemisphere.

Mixed doubles often seems to be a game of "cat and mouse",

#### *A victorious Sharp*



providing sometimes quirky results and unexpected winning streaks throughout the draw.

The talented U.S. team of Shelstad and Britton streaked by this season's previously unbeaten U.S. team of Jogis and Hughes 15-9, 15-8, but they fell in the next round to the Danish and Canadian combination and #2 seeds Helledie and Little 15-7, 15-4.

In the quarterfinals, Butler and Sharp suffered a first game loss, 15-10, to the top Peruvian team of Valdez and S. Jimenez, but then countered with 15-1 and 15-0 games to advance.

Another Peruvian pair, Salazar and G. Jimenez, finally upset #3 seed Canadians Goss and Piche 18-17 in the third game of a real see-saw thriller to advance to the semifinals against Helledie and Little. There the Peruvians suffered the frustration of a 15-2, 15-2 trouncing.

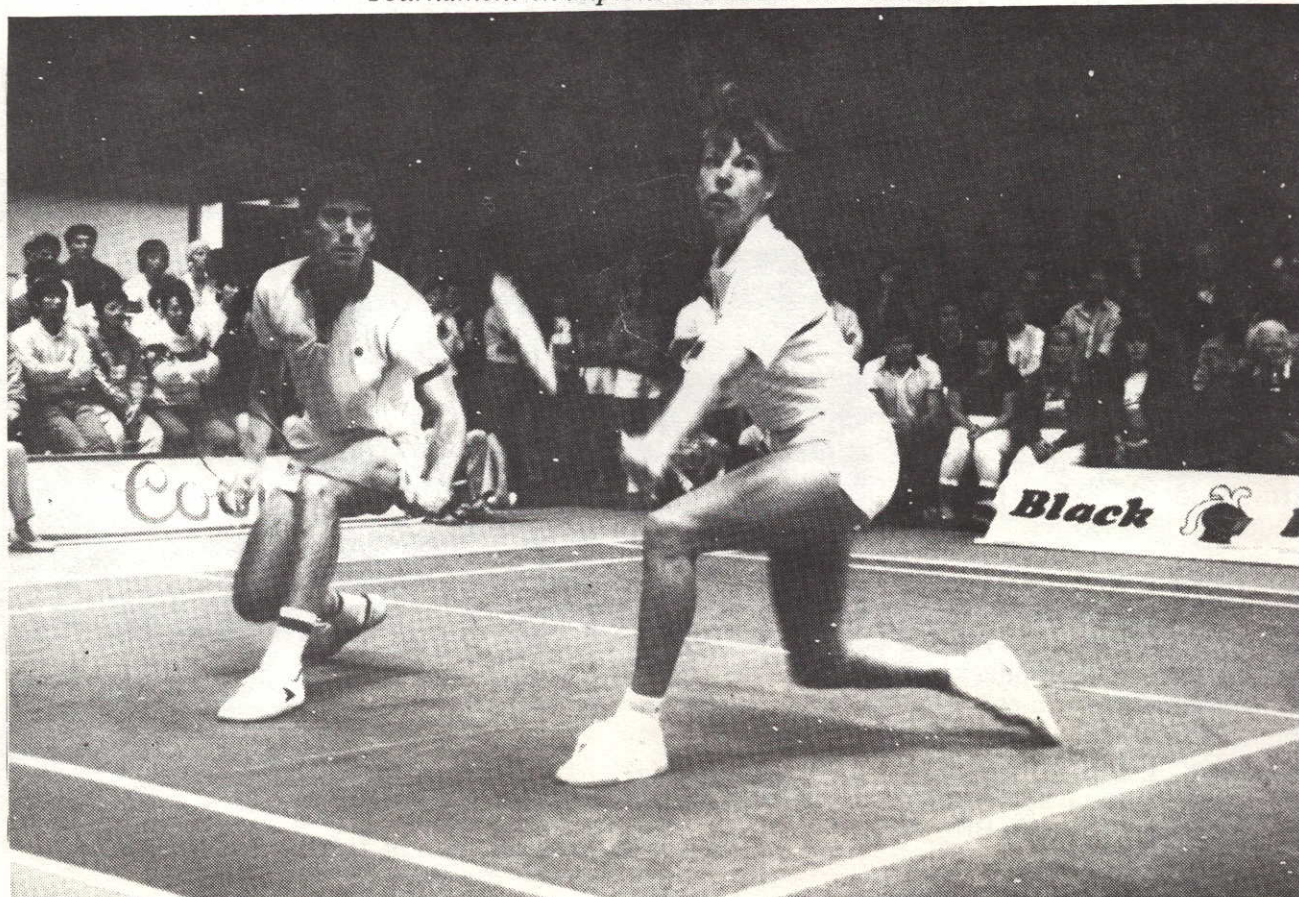
The top U.S. entrants and #4 seeds, Pontow and French, were upset by Canadians Poole and Allison in their first round match in straight games. Poole and Allison then advanced uncontested to the semifinals where they nearly pulled off an upset against Butler and Sharp in the first two games, winning 15-8 and reaching 13-9 in the second before falling 18-16 and 15-2 in the third.

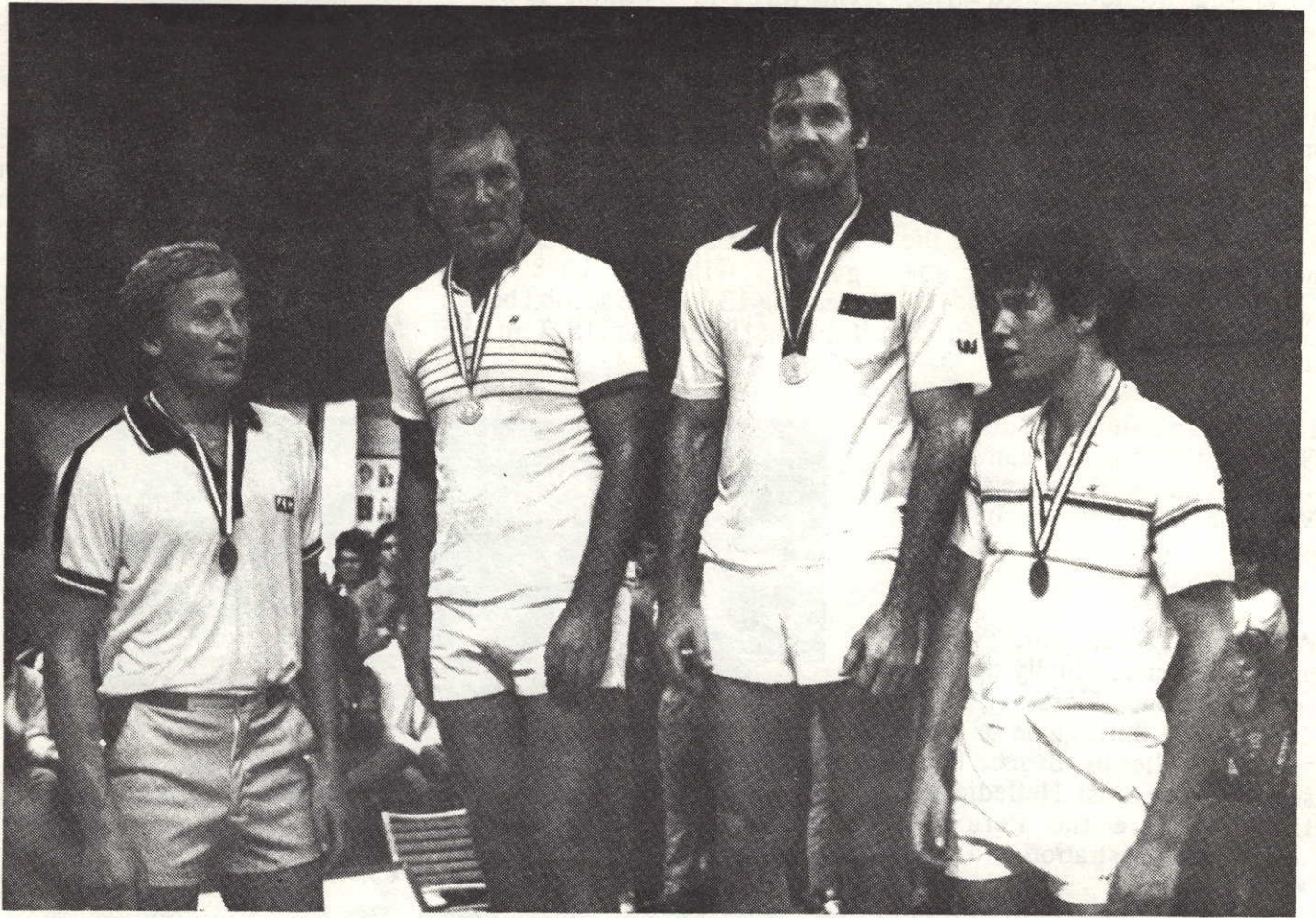
This set the scene for a finals contest between what were clearly the best two mixed teams. In their match, each team gained control in streaks. Butler and Sharp took the first game 15-9, but Helledie and Little grabbed the second 15-7. In the second game, Little, although by far the least experienced player, provided worthy support for her expert Danish partner. But the experience and practiced



*HELLEDIE teamed up with CANADIAN LITTLE*

*Tournament champions BUTLER and SHARP*





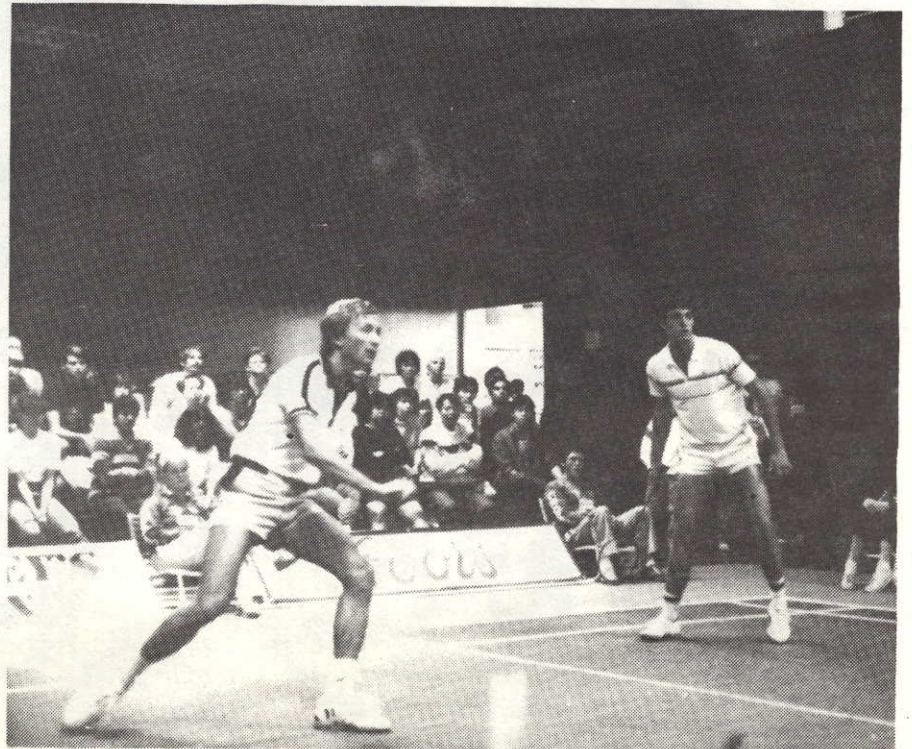
*U.S. team of BRITTON-HIGGINS comes in first*

teamwork of Butler and Sharp vaulted them to an easy 15-4 win in the deciding third game.

### MEN'S DOUBLES

It is not that the Canadians and other visitors are weak in men's doubles, but that the top U.S. team of Britton and Higgins is so strong. Their years of experience, national titles and international successes, provide them with the necessary poise. While their combination of athletic talents carry them through against more regimented highly trained opponents.

In each match of the tourney, Britton's and Higgins serves and service returns were superior, as were all phases of their attacking, flat, and defensive games. Each game took on much the same appearance. Higgins worked to gain the steady attack, usually from the backcourt, while Britton nearly always went for the unpredictable winner using his



*Outstanding doubles team of HELLEDIE & GOSS.*



uncanny ability to anticipate the opponent's shot. Together, they always seemed to dictate the style and pace of play, their opponents merely reacting.

In reaching the semis, Britton and Higgins easily outmatched U.S. rival teams Jogis and Lee 15-8, 15-8, and Chadwick and Shelstad 15-9, 15-1.

Meanwhile, elsewhere in the draw, the #2 U.S. team of Fogarty and Pontow, despite their success in the last Thomas Cup competition, failed to gel in time in this OPEN, which was their first tournament of the season. They lost to the #1 seeded team of Helledie and Goss 15-5, 18-16 in an early round.

The new U. S. pairing of Dean Schoppe and Russ Nelson surprisingly managed to gain a semifinal appearance with the help of a default by the tournament's #4 seeds and convincing victories over U.S. and Mexican opponents. However, they lacked the strength to advance past Helledie and Goss and fell 15-9, 15-1 in the semifinals.

In one of the most exciting matchups, the inspired Peruvians Salazar and Valdez took on Canadians Butler and Poole. The tide switched back and forth in long and hard-fought rallies of smashing and counter-attack. Butler and Poole emerged the winners after well over an hour 14-17, 15-12, 15-9, only to fall later to Britton and Higgins in the semifinals 15-11, 15-11.

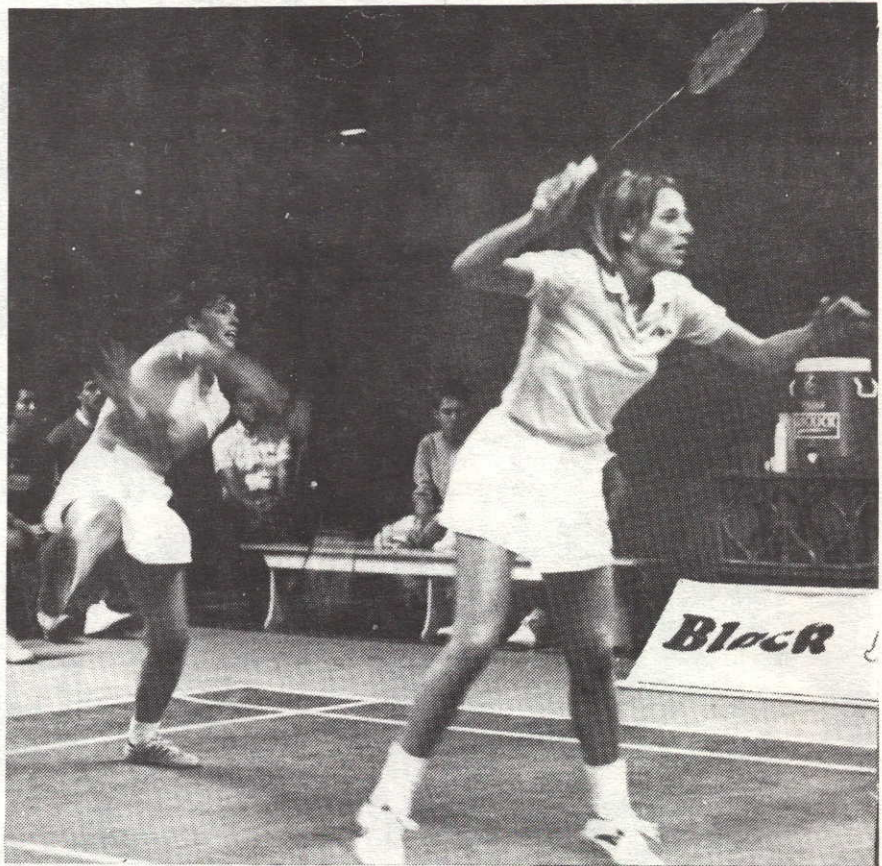
The finals showcased four outstanding talents: the skilled and experienced teamwork of Britton and Higgins versus the world class Dane, Helledie, and his partner Goss's raw athletic ability. Though a "pick-up team" for this tournament, Helledie and Goss had gained their #1 seed from the International Badminton Federation based on their individual merits.

Britton and Higgins focused their attack on the relatively unpolished Goss. Helledie appeared



*BRITTON and HIGGINS going for the Gold*

*KITZMILLER and LOLK couldn't quite make it*



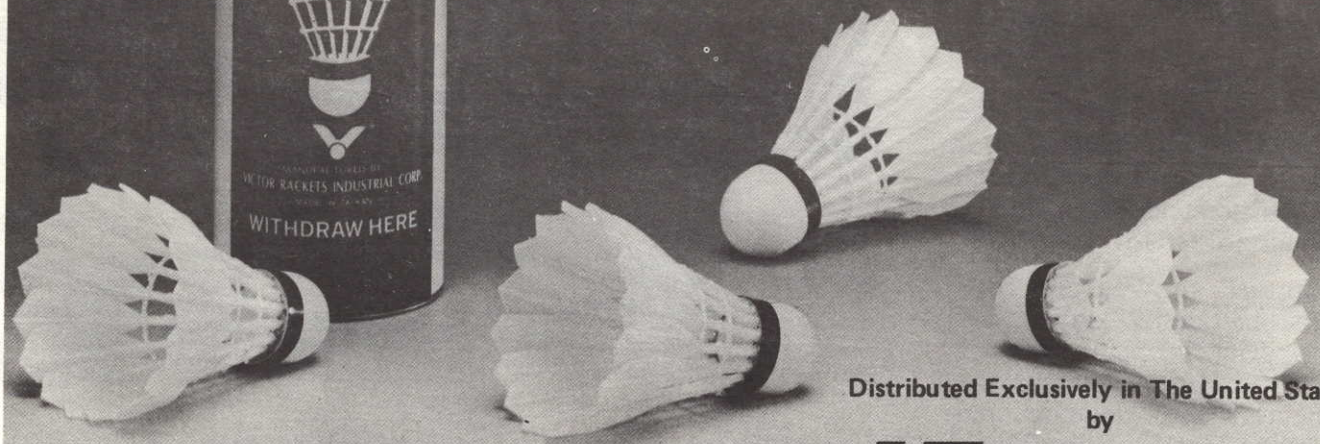
frustrated as he had too little chance to use his superior shot placement skills to help his partner. They never were able to gather any momentum as a team.

The Americans worked hard to stay close to their opponents midway through each game. Both Britton and Higgins were

especially aggressive in their service returns, thus keeping Helledie and Goss from scoring streaks of points. The U.S. team then capped each game with a final burst of steady offense to capture the coveted U.S. OPEN men's doubles crown 15-12, 15-11.



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**JESPER HELLEDIE** attained perhaps the most coveted accolade in doubles by winning the World Championships in 1983. A native of Copenhagen he combines an excellent repertoire of shots along with cat-like quickness. At age 31, Jesper continues to be a dominant figure in international competition. Witnessing his play at this year's U.S. Open he brought excitement to an otherwise status quo tournament.

## AN INTERVIEW WITH JESPER HELLEDIE --

By: Cassandra Salapatas-Metz

**TBM - Is this your first trip to the United States?**

**JESPER -** Yes it is. Unfortunately, there is not much badminton in the U.S. But, everyone in the badminton world wants the U.S. to be interested so, we of course, hope that badminton as an Olympic sport will help.

**TBM - So far that's not the case.**

**JESPER -** No? It's really a shame because there have been so many very, very good players from the U.S. -- but it seems there are fewer now than let's say 10 years ago.

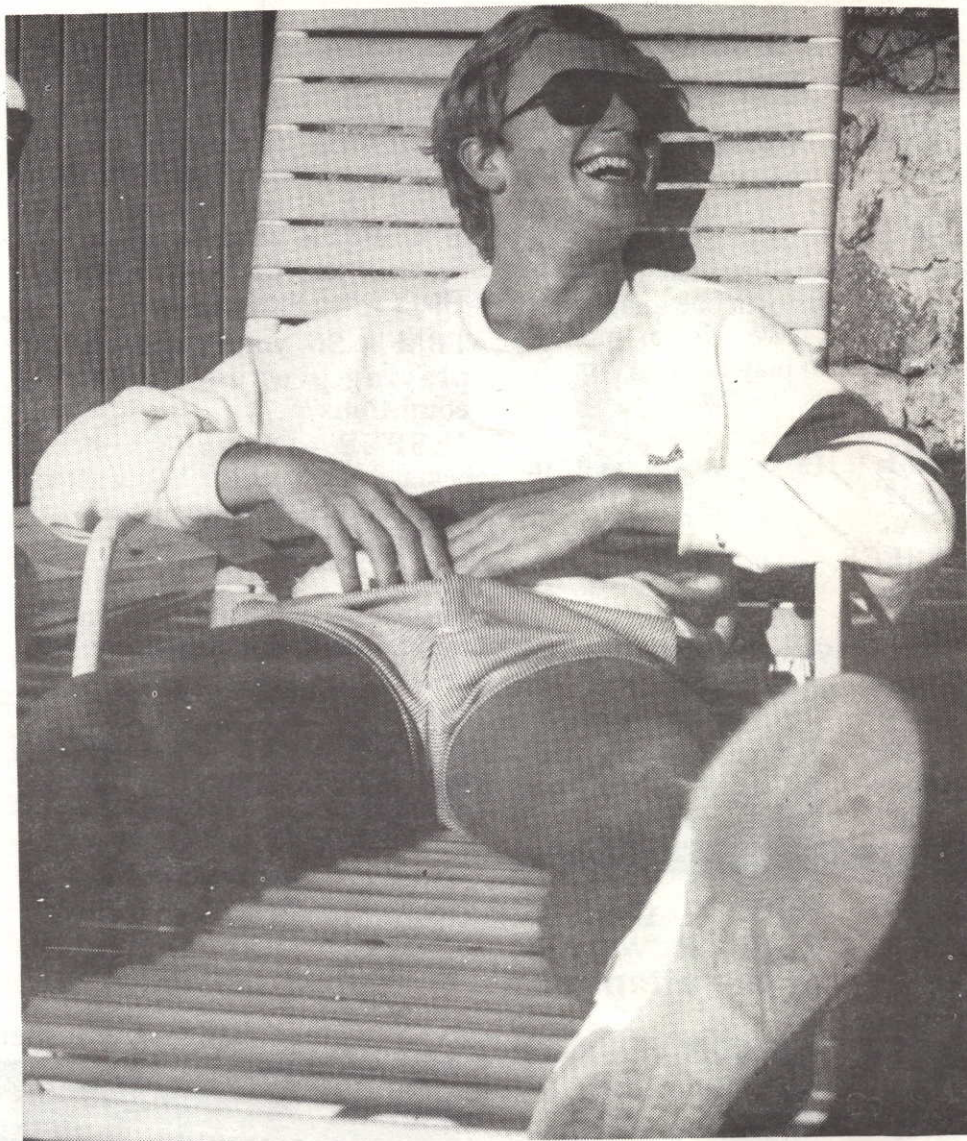
**TBM - Are you considered a professional?**

**JESPER -** In badminton no one is called professional. We're called licensed players. That means we're allowed to make contracts with different companies. I make a living off playing badminton.

**TBM - How many licensed players are there in Denmark?**

**JESPER -** Probably about 10. Morten Frost, Steen Fladberg, I'm one, Kirsten Larsen...

**TBM - Is making a living from badminton rare in Denmark?**



*Jesper goes "Hollywood"*

**JESPER -** No, you have to get a contract with a sponsor to make a living. To get that contract you must get your name in the papers so they get value for their money. So you have to be among the best. (Editor's note: Jesper is sponsored by NCR and Pro Kennex)

**TBM - Are you?**

**JESPER -** In Denmark... in doubles. My partner is Steen Fladberg.

**TBM - What types of training do you do?**

**JESPER -** I basically play, mostly play. In the off season I do more running.

**TBM - What is the season?**

**JESPER** - It used to be from October until April, but now there is getting to be more and more tournaments during the summer as well. More tournaments in the Far East in the summer. Now it's almost "the season" all-year-around.

**TBM - As a licensed player must you play?**

**JESPER** - No, but the biggest money tournaments are the Far East, so if we want to make a living we have to go there. Prize money is not like in tennis or golf. You can't just win one tournament a year and have a lot of money. You have to play in many, many tournaments.

**TBM - Have you played in Asia?**

**JESPER** - Many times-- twenty at least.

**TBM - Which countries have you visited in Asia?**

**JESPER** - Thailand, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Taiwan, China, Indonesia, Japan.

**"You want to give a little bit more when you know the attention is there."**

**TBM - How difficult is it to travel and play?**

**JESPER** - It takes a long time to go places. I don't really like to travel-- especially Asia. It's so hot, so humid, so dirty and it's very difficult to play with those conditions. Then it's such a long journey back.

**TBM - I've heard the crowd is a factor in Asian tournaments.**

**JESPER** - The worst place with crowds is Indonesia. But in

doubles I've won the Indian Open and Hong Kong Open. I made it to the semi's of the Indonesian and Malaysian Opens.

**TBM - Do crowds really hiss and jeer?**

**JESPER** - Oh yes. It's not quiet like a place like this. It doesn't bother me because I'm used to it. I like when something is going on in the seats. It lets you know people are into the match and watch what is going on. They shout and scream but they do it during the rallies while the bird is in the air and when the bird is on the floor they don't say anything. That's when the fun is over.

**TBM - So you get excited playing under those conditions?**

**JESPER** - Oh yes, it's much better.. much better. You want to give a little bit more when you know the attention is there.

**TBM - Is it especially satisfying winning an Asian tournament when the crowd is against you?**

**JESPER** - They're not that much against you. Well, of course they are against us, but they are fair. They know the game and cheer for good badminton. The spectators make noise but it bothers the Asians as much as it bothers us. So it's no problem.

**TBM - Will you be playing Thomas Cup?**

**JESPER** - I think so. At the Thomas Cup the spectators will be more excited because Thomas Cup is the most important thing to Asian badminton. Much more important than being a World Champion for instance.

**TBM - How many tournaments do you play a year?**

**JESPER** - 30 or something like that. It might be more.

**TBM - Whew, how do you avoid injuries?**

**JESPER** - I've had them... that's why I don't play singles anymore. I've had my left achilles broken twice. The last happened in 1980 and I haven't played singles since.

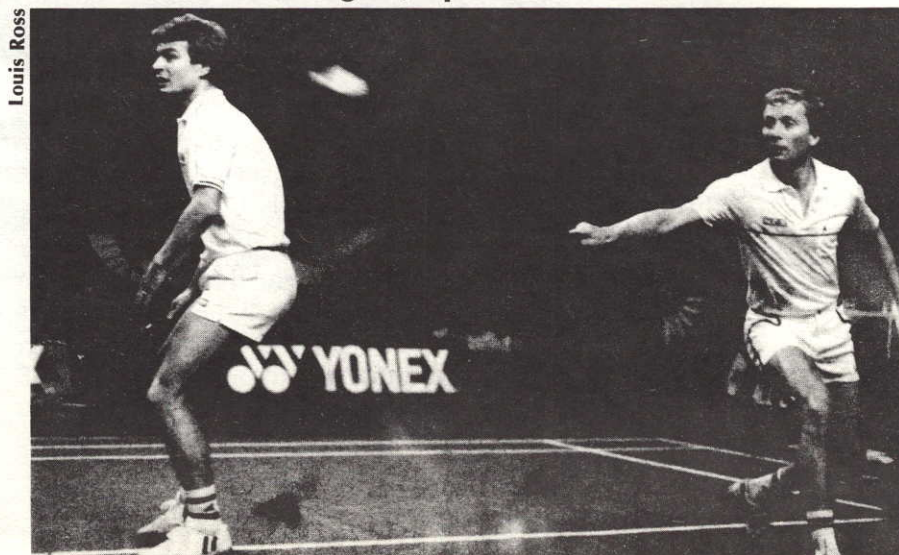
**TBM - Except at the U.S. Open.**

**JESPER** - No, it's just that I would like to get some more exercise. But I never play singles in Denmark.

**TBM - What was your most exciting victory?**

**JESPER** - The World Championships of course. I can only recommend that you try it-- it's so fun!

**Steen Fladberg & Jesper Helledie - Denmark**



**TBM - Is there really an Asian and European style of Badminton?**

**JESPER -** Yes there is a difference. Asians jump much more than we do. They smash more than we do. We think they use their strength in a wrong way and they condition in the wrong way. They jump so much it takes alot of energy.

---

**"They train much harder than we do, but much more inefficient."**

---

**TBM - Do they retire alot earlier?**

**JESPER -** They train much harder than we do, but much more inefficient. We're much more efficient in the way we train. They train maybe five to nine hours a day. That's not good. They get so bored of badminton. They haven't got anything else. That's important for us we've got other things in our lives besides badminton. They retire much earlier than we do.

**TBM - When did you begin to play?**

**JESPER -** I started at 11 or 12.

**TBM - Did your parent's play?**

**JESPER -** They played a little bit. The reason I played is I lived very close to school, and between my home and school was the badminton club. So it was very easy. I was always there. I played very, very much at that time.

**TBM - Why did you continue?**

**JESPER -** Badminton is a very big sport in Denmark. The second largest sport after soccer.

**TBM - Are you recognized?**

**JESPER -** Sometimes I am. People don't say anything so it doesn't matter. They did once, when Steen and I won the World Championships in 1983 in Copenhagen. So after that, people recognized us almost anywhere. It was only positive. They were so nice and so happy for us.

**TBM - How many players are in the Danish Association?**

**JESPER -** In the association around 170,000 and we have a very small country of five million. And that's only in the Association, but there is a larger number who play but not under the Danish Association. All together there is probably about 400,000 that play organized badminton.

**TBM - What do you think of U.S. shuttles?**

**JESPER -** Internationally they are faster than what we normally play with. We play with very heavy birds all over the world. You hit and hit and hit and nothing happens-- especially in the Far East.

**TBM - Has the game changed much?**

**JESPER -** It's changed alot while I've been playing. It's much faster now.

**TBM - With the inclusion of badminton in the Olympics will it mean more for licensed players?**

**JESPER -** Oh, that's what we all hope. I think to get the big money the U. S. teams have to get good. All of us who play or have something to do with badminton hope the U. S. will get interested.

**TBM - As a licensed player do you have a job?**

**JESPER -** No, that's what I do, play badminton. I had a job. I

worked for a computer company, NCR... an American company. They let me work when I was home which was very, very good but it was too much. Now in 1985 I've been out of Denmark more than I've been in Denmark. With the unemployment rate so high all over the world they can't afford to keep me. There are so many others that can use a full time job.

**TBM - Did you study in school?**

**JESPER -** Yes, I have a degree in Economics.

**TBM - How long will we see Jesper on the courts?**

**JESPER -** I don't know. I can't say. It depends on injuries, results and sponsorships. When I can't make a living or sponsors aren't interested anymore I will have to find a job. That will automatically cut down on my badminton. So alot depends on my results.

**TBM - If you were to give advice to an American player, what would it be?**

**JESPER -** The biggest weakness of U. S. players is the speed in which they play the game. The one who can play the fastest and still control the bird will win. So it's a question of getting used to playing as fast as you can. That's why Morten Frost wins. He's not a better badminton player than anyone. He doesn't have more shots than anyone else. He's just much, much faster and he's used to playing fast so he doesn't make mistakes. When he plays opponents that are very good but not used to playing as fast, they make mistakes because they don't get as much time to make their shots as they normally do. That's very important. Also, it's so very difficult to train if you haven't got good players to train against.

•••••



## PUBLISHER'S LETTERS....

Among the United States Badminton Association's many responsibilities as the governing body of badminton; are holding national championships, fielding international teams, improving the standard of play and most importantly, in my opinion, encouraging badminton's growth.

One way to gauge the growth of badminton is to measure the growth of USBA members. If we judge the USBA by this measure it has been either woefully negligent or misguided while observing the steady decline in membership. I believe the USBA's recent efforts have been misguided.

There are a number of very successful high school athletic team badminton programs in the United States. What is the USBA doing to help existing programs flourish and to encourage the birth of new programs? These programs offer an invaluable source of new badminton recruits and potential USBA members.

With viable high school competitive programs in place, the next step is to lobby for and promote junior college and NCAA adoption of badminton as a collegiate sport. This effort would culminate in the NCAA holding a national collegiate badminton championship.

It is important to develop effective scholastic badminton programs because the machinery already is in place for developing athletic programs. The schools and governing bodies administering sports in our country are well funded and staffed by professionals. The USBA needs to tap this invaluable resource.

Let us make a New Year's resolution to put the majority of our efforts in assisting badminton on the scholastic level; high schools, junior colleges, and universities.

David H. Levin

A new and exciting year is here! With the recent historic breakthrough of Olympic status for badminton, this year promises to set the course for new growth in the sport.

Very few sports offer the multi-dimensional exercise that badminton can provide for all ages and levels of ability. Badminton is easy to learn and fun to play, yet has Olympian athletic potential as one becomes more skillful and physically fit.

Ironically, in an age of tremendous media hype for the sports world, more Americans are more sedentary and less physically fit than ever before. I can think of no better way to introduce our inactive friends to

the fun and fitness of badminton can be accommodated.

Do your friends a favor. Tell them about badminton and encourage them to come out and play. They will not steal your court time, but will add variety (and perhaps some humor) to your recreational fun.

Join your local and national badminton organizations. Beside the services they provide us (newsletters, educational materials, tournament arrangements, etc.), they are our primary force for promoting public awareness of badminton.

Let these dedicated sponsors know about possible playing sites. Then more people seeking

the world of exercise than through the sport of badminton.

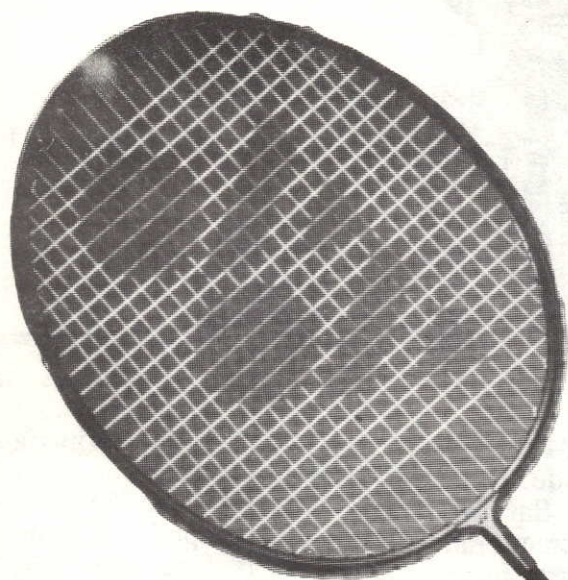
Each of us is an important link in making this a dynamic new year of growth for our favorite sport.

--W. Guy Chadwick





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# YMCA'S LEAD COMMUNITY BADMINTON

Thanks to all the YMCA's who told us about their badminton programs. Here's a sampling of some of their bright ideas for promoting the sport. They will be of interest to those of you who are setting up YMCA or community programs.

**Fox Valley Family YMCA** in Plano, Illinois has a program involving men --bankers and businessmen-- who come to play on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from noon to 1:30 p.m. They find that they enjoy badminton much more than doing other fitness exercises. The program was started by Art Perket, the director, in the fall of 1985 and has turned out to be more popular than anticipated. He gives some instruction to the players as well as supervising the recreational play.

Due to popular demand, the YMCA is about to start an afternoon badminton program for housewives. The cost for both programs is \$15 for 7 weeks for YMCA members, and \$25 for 7 weeks for non-members. They have 3 courts.

**The Huntington YMCA** in Huntington, West Virginia offers a badminton class, five hours a week of recreational play with up to 25 players, league team play twice a year, and one or two tournaments which attract about 30 participants. They have 4 courts.

According to Connie Wills, the **Northwest County YMCA** in St. Louis has a very close relationship with the local school district. The school district is willing to pay all the expenses for the YMCA to set up an hour and a half of recreational play twice a week, to set up league play, and to publicize the program through a school district newsletter which reaches 55,000 people. They



BY: VIRGINIA HALES

invite players of all ages to use their three courts.

**The Brooklyn YMCA** in Brooklyn, Ohio, under the direction of Deborah Sartain, offers two hours of recreational badminton on two courts three nights a week, and publicize it through a brochure. Play is open to all in the community. The cost is \$4 for YMCA members or guests and \$6 for non-members. There is no instruction given, but the YMCA provides the rackets and shuttles.

According to Director Stephan Holcomb, the **Kalamazoo Family YMCA** in Kalamazoo, Michigan has a very active program. They have four courts and offer five hours a week of recreational play on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon and Saturday mornings. Players provide their own rackets and shuttles.

In the past, the "Y" has cooperated with the Kalamazoo Badminton Club in sponsoring a yearly tournament which drew up to 120 participants. The tournament director was Harry Orr, a well-known competitive player in the area.

**The Hollywood YMCA** in Hollywood, California has had a recreational badminton program on and off since 1928 when the facility was built. The current program is on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 8:00 to

9:30 p.m. with 5-12 players using the facility's two courts. It is supervised by an enthusiastic volunteer, John London, who gives instruction to anyone who wants it and supplies equipment. The cost is free for YMCA members and \$6 for a non-member day pass.

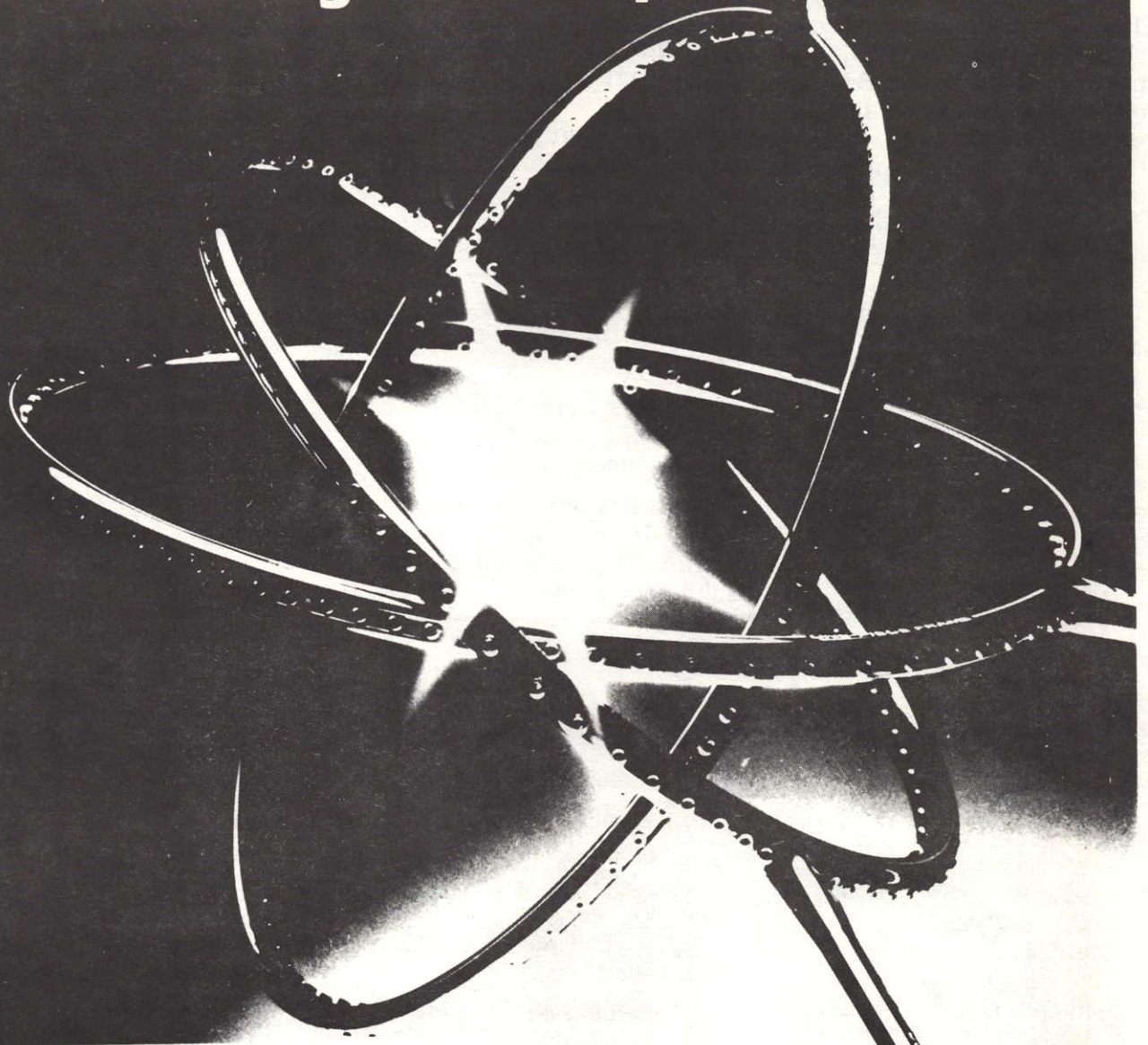
As you can see there are many different approaches to setting up a successful YMCA badminton program. Time and space are always a problem. Ideally, the best all-around program would be one which offered:

1. An instructional class of about 12 lessons.
2. Recreational play at least once a week.
3. League team play with other YMCA's in the area for a 3-month season.
4. A tournament to culminate the season.

I hope this has been helpful to those of you who are YMCA members or directors. It also might be of interest to directors of indoor tennis facilities who would like to utilize their space more effectively and vary the activities they offer.

If I can be of any help in answering questions about setting up programs, please let me know either by mail, or by telephone on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at (213) 454-6965. See you next issue.

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# PBC RATINGS

The new computer ratings for singles are in! Len Hill, Vice-president of the USBA, has organized a program that rates players based upon actual tournament match play. This program allows for an up-to-date comparison among players throughout the United States.

To begin with arbitrary ratings were assigned each player based upon Len Hill's expert knowledge. The current ratings reflect data entered from 16 different tournaments. At this time there is a slight bias towards players who have a large number of results, but this will be corrected as more results are entered.

programed result when evaluating the difference in the beginning ratings of the contestants.

If you are interested in finding out where you stand among other U.S. players; 1) join the USBA, 2) make sure the tournament chairman send the results in to Len Hill immediately following the tournament. **In the future only USBA members will be rated.**

The ratings are calculated by a computer program that compares actual game scores in a match to a

The ratings are only as good as the tournament results received. Follow these pointers when submitting results:

- 1) The player's name must be given in full, preferably with a middle initial when available.
- 2) Please note the sex of the player. Sometimes this is hard to determine just from the name. When sending full draw sheets designate men's or women's singles.
- 3) Report the score in full, taking special care with three-game matches as the winner's lost game must be reported in proper sequence.
- 4) A complete draw sheet should be provided so that all data is entered sequentially. Consolation matches should be submitted with results also.



Send results to:  
 Len Hill  
 757-A Calderon Ave  
 Mountain View, CA 94041



## MEN

|                     |      |                     |      |                   |      |
|---------------------|------|---------------------|------|-------------------|------|
| XIMING - YAO        | 2050 | TREMBOIS - TOM      | 1834 | KO - SIEWS        | 1580 |
| JOGIS - CHRIS       | 2032 | COOK - BOB          | 1826 | AUDISS - PAUL     | 1577 |
| CHADWICK - GUY      | 1992 | ZUNIGA - IAN        | 1808 | JONES - D         | 1573 |
| ALSTON - TONY       | 1988 | LIN - MICHAEL       | 1803 | LAU - JOSEPH      | 1567 |
| HIGGINS - GARY      | 1985 | ESTES - RON         | 1788 | MARKS - JOHN      | 1566 |
| LEE - BENNY         | 1965 | HEDGE - ROGER       | 1787 | LAU - TERRANCE    | 1564 |
| BAUM - PETER        | 1962 | TIERNEY - RICH      | 1784 | CHUNG - JEREMY    | 1562 |
| HUSSEY - KEVIN      | 1953 | NGUYEN - NHUT       | 1783 | HART - ED         | 1560 |
| MALDE - SANJAY      | 1952 | KITAJIMA - GARY     | 1757 | GERVASONI - MIKE  | 1559 |
| KNUDSEN - KARL      | 1949 | CANIGOLAS - KIRK    | 1752 | DIXON - ALAN      | 1558 |
| BRADY - DANNY       | 1944 | GUNDHUS - JOHN      | 1743 | SUWANTIO - DAN    | 1558 |
| LIMADINATA - BENNY  | 1942 | CHUO - PAUL         | 1734 | MORELY - ROBERT   | 1553 |
| JONES - RANDY       | 1934 | RIVERA - FERNANDO   | 1726 | FRIED - GIL       | 1540 |
| RUBIN - DAN         | 1933 | PINI - TONY         | 1723 | TO - DAN          | 1539 |
| WALKER - MIKE       | 1931 | ROELINGA - SIETE    | 1723 | HYDE - PAUL       | 1531 |
| MATTA - JOHN        | 1927 | DANG - TRI          | 1722 | SORENSEN - KAJ    | 1518 |
| BEREKNYEI - IMRE    | 1925 | BLOCKER - CALVIN    | 1720 | WALKER - RICHARD  | 1517 |
| RUBIN - PAUL        | 1922 | ANDERSON - DAVE     | 1705 | KYLE - JIM        | 1516 |
| GILMOUR - BOB       | 1917 | DOMMEYER - CURT     | 1703 | ELNATAN - ETO     | 1512 |
| TOBING - TRISNO     | 1915 | TONG - ROBERT       | 1699 | BLESZYNSKI - RICK | 1511 |
| TONG - ROGER        | 1910 | HUDSON - GEOFF      | 1698 | TSANG - DEREK     | 1511 |
| ADAMS - MIKE        | 1903 | SING - TEK          | 1691 | JONES - MARTIN    | 1510 |
| CUTCLIFFE - BRENT   | 1902 | CHRISTOPHERSON - CH | 1684 | NGO - CHANG       | 1509 |
| GOUW - ANDY         | 1897 | KIERNAN - JOEL      | 1680 | WONG - KEE        | 1508 |
| MUNSON - MILES      | 1897 | OKUNO - RUSS        | 1679 | CHANG - GEORGE    | 1493 |
| LEVIN - DAVID       | 1895 | SHAKIH - SALEEM     | 1677 | NOBIDA - MAX      | 1493 |
| BUCK - RON          | 1894 | VAN OLDEN - MAX     | 1667 | MARTIN - DAVID    | 1491 |
| FRENCH - MARTY      | 1890 | DANG - DUNG         | 1665 | CHU - CHING HUA   | 1490 |
| NG - DICK           | 1890 | SCWARTZ - STU       | 1658 | LYNCH - MIKE      | 1490 |
| SCHOPPE - DEAN      | 1890 | WEBB - DAVID        | 1649 | BISCHOFF - STAN   | 1489 |
| HUSSEY - KELLY      | 1887 | PETERSON - GILES    | 1642 | CHESTNUT - PAT    | 1484 |
| BARFORD - PAUL      | 1886 | DAVID - JOE         | 1640 | MALSONADO - MARK  | 1484 |
| RIPLEY - TAD        | 1885 | RICHARDSON - GLEN   | 1637 | SELVIK - DAN      | 1484 |
| MOLLOY - CRAIG      | 1883 | CHANG - JUSTIN      | 1633 | HERNANDEZ - R     | 1483 |
| CARMICHAEL - TOM JR | 1882 | YAMASHIRO - DAVID   | 1629 | NG - RAY          | 1477 |
| AU YEUNG - PATRICK  | 1878 | VINERTS - HENRY     | 1628 | RAPOZA - GREG     | 1476 |
| BRITTON - JOHN      | 1877 | CHAN - KING         | 1607 | PARKER - GEORGE   | 1474 |
| LARSEN - DARRIS     | 1872 | BUNCE - HOWARD      | 1595 | SOON - K.T.       | 1474 |
| MURPHY - BILL       | 1870 | MUNANDAR - TAMIN    | 1595 | LOCKE - TOM       | 1472 |
| FLEXER - MIKE       | 1851 | CHAN - JASON        | 1591 | AMES - STEVE      | 1471 |
| PENN - DAVID        | 1844 | NGO - BRIAN         | 1582 | BHATIA - RATAN    | 1470 |

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|---------------------|------|
| LI - ROBIN          | 1470 |
| WATSON - PAUL       | 1469 |
| BARNES - ED         | 1467 |
| HARSONO - HARDISURJ | 1464 |
| LIAO - WILSON       | 1464 |
| IP - SAM            | 1461 |
| LEE - JOSEPH        | 1461 |
| SHYU - PO LIN       | 1461 |
| JANG - JOHN         | 1456 |
| SANCHEZ - GEORGE    | 1453 |
| TAM - SAM           | 1452 |
| GONZALES - KEN      | 1450 |
| CHAU - JULIUS       | 1445 |
| CUTLER - STEVE      | 1445 |
| TAM - TONY          | 1442 |
| WOO - JIMMY         | 1438 |
| TZENG - J. C.       | 1423 |
| WANG - GARY         | 1421 |
| LI - RICHARD        | 1420 |
| PENAFIEL - ROY      | 1412 |
| TING - TOM          | 1412 |
| LEHMAN - BRIAN      | 1411 |
| MERCADO - JOEY      | 1411 |
| ASSAVAPISITKUL - S  | 1405 |
| HU - BRUCE          | 1400 |
| LIU - LIN SHIH      | 1398 |

## WOMEN

|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| KELLY - JUDI       | 1965 |
| SAFARIK - LINDA    | 1929 |
| KITZMILLER - JOY   | 1924 |
| OKUNO - MEILING    | 1921 |
| HUGHES - MARY FRAN | 1915 |
| PONTOW - MONICA    | 1905 |
| FERRER - CELESTE   | 1900 |
| WIENEKE - KATHY    | 1894 |
| FRENCH - LINDA     | 1893 |
| RACE - DAWN        | 1893 |

|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| WILLIAMS - SUSAN   | 1890 |
| FRENCH - ANN       | 1889 |
| DENIS - MARGARET   | 1887 |
| CICRICH - JOANNE   | 1883 |
| MCKINLEY - BARB    | 1880 |
| HOLMES - TRACY     | 1868 |
| OWENS - PAM        | 1867 |
| LOLK - NINA        | 1867 |
| WEBBER - GINA      | 1861 |
| ORTEZ - MONICA     | 1837 |
| SCHULENBURG - BARB | 1824 |
| SMITH - JENNIFER   | 1803 |
| HILL - SUSAN       | 1737 |
| HOUSE - MARY       | 1731 |
| KITAJIMA - DARLENE | 1728 |
| OCONNOR - DEBBIE   | 1726 |
| SMITH - DONNA      | 1707 |
| STEPHAN - JULIE    | 1707 |
| LEYOW - MARIE      | 1702 |
| SUDMUNDSON - D     | 1698 |
| CHUN - CAROL       | 1697 |
| LEMCKE - SUSANNE   | 1691 |
| WARNER - LAURA     | 1682 |
| HANSEN - JANET     | 1663 |
| PUTZO - MELISSA    | 1658 |
| TERRY - EMILY      | 1637 |
| KETTER - LYNN      | 1631 |
| TAFOYA - MICHELLE  | 1597 |
| BREISE - CINDY     | 1554 |
| VETTEL - DEBORAH   | 1548 |
| HOE - SUSANA       | 1541 |
| PIERSON - NANCY    | 1538 |
| KANGAS - LANA      | 1537 |
| DELEON - MARIFLOR  | 1521 |
| LILENBERG - AMY    | 1510 |
| OCAMPO - D         | 1507 |
| YAP - YENI         | 1507 |
| LEE - ANNA         | 1505 |
| BISCHOFF - CAROLYN | 1493 |
| TREES - MARIBEL    | 1491 |
| LAU - TERESA       | 1486 |

|                     |      |
|---------------------|------|
| BRUNNER - LIZ       | 1477 |
| DALRYMPLE - MINDY   | 1477 |
| YOSHIDA - MICHELLE  | 1471 |
| SHOWERS - CHERYL    | 1471 |
| HUNG - ANNA         | 1460 |
| CHAN - KAREN        | 1455 |
| YU - MALINDA        | 1453 |
| BOSWELL - BARBARA   | 1452 |
| HARRAN - CHRIS      | 1451 |
| MATTA - KARIN       | 1448 |
| BRAZEAU - WENDY     | 1446 |
| LI - REBECCA        | 1440 |
| HICKOX - KATIE      | 1440 |
| CHAN - LILA         | 1422 |
| POON - JEP          | 1421 |
| ROELINGA - SIETSKIE | 1400 |
| CURLETTE - GRETA    | 1394 |
| KOO - CINDY         | 1377 |
| CHANG - CHRIS       | 1370 |
| MILAM - MARGARET    | 1369 |
| CHAN - PUI          | 1369 |
| HERNANDEZ - ROSA    | 1368 |
| TSANG - LISA        | 1365 |
| GONZALES - LAURA    | 1363 |
| CHAN - ANDREA       | 1361 |
| NIELSEN - JOANNE    | 1357 |
| KING - HILARY       | 1335 |
| ELIAS - CINDY       | 1333 |
| IRIJOYEN - LINDA    | 1331 |
| MAHADEVAN - NIMI    | 1329 |
| NECHUTA - HOPE      | 1326 |
| NG - SHARON         | 1325 |
| MAHADEVAN - VIITHA  | 1325 |



—WEST  
MEETS  
EAST—

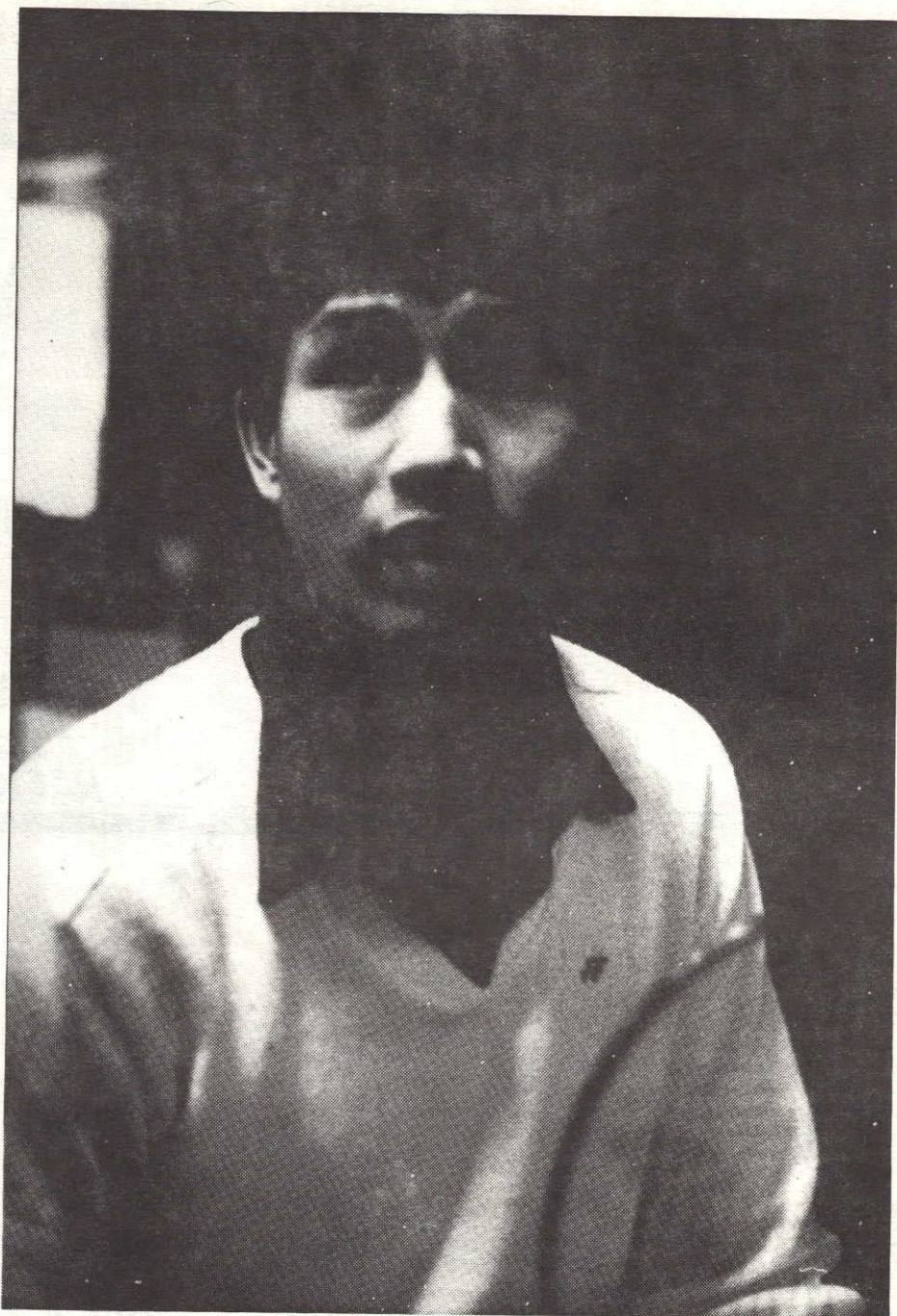
## YAO XIMING

### Chinese Superstar comes to U.S.

A very abbreviated list of the doubles achievements of Yao Ximing and his partner Sun Zhian is stunning. It includes titles at the 1981 World Games, the 1982 Thomas Cup tie, and the 1982 Asian Games.

Yao Ximing (YOW see-MING) was born in the city-province of Canton in mainland China some 29 years ago. At the age of seven, he first began playing badminton at one of the local outdoor recreational courts along with his little brother and sister. He played recreationally, and occasionally participated in tournaments for fun, for the next several years without specific coaching or participation in any particular club organization.

Much to his surprise, at the age of 14 he was "drafted" by the Canton Sports Training Center for his potential in the sport of badminton. This "big chance" 20



represented an exciting opportunity and an alternative to field or factory labor. At this time Yao Ximing set a goal to excel in badminton.

For the next six years, the training center would be his home, which was about 300 miles from his family. The center housed boys and girls training for many different sports. Yao and 30 to 40 of the boys and girls trained under 10 coaches.

While Yao was at the training center, he also obtained his general schooling -- reading, writing, and arithmetic, etc. --

two days each week. (Now, schooling is each morning, until the boys and girls are 18 years old.) The rest of his 6-day-a-week regimen focused directly on badminton and was completely planned out by the coaches.

A typical day involved a 6:00 a.m. start with one hour of basic physical conditioning, such as running on a track. Followed by an hour break for breakfast, four hours of on-the-court skill training, a three-hour rest and lunch break, and finally a three-hour "serious" conditioning session until 6:00 p.m.

Afterward, the students were not allowed to leave the center, though they did receive 12 vacation days per year to visit their families.

Between the age of 17 and 20, Yao began to represent China in matches in Africa and other Asian countries in both singles and doubles. At this point, his coaches considered him to have world class potential. That judgment was confirmed with his second-place finish in men's doubles, with now "official" partner Sun Zhian, at the 1976 Asian Games.

Sun Zhian was from a different province, Jiangsu, and he and Yao trained separately until they reached 20 years of age. But they did play major tournaments together. The coaching organization could see that their similar styles blended perfectly, and Yao feels that their partnership was "meant to be."

At 20, Yao "graduated" to the Chinese National Training Center in Peking where he began to specialize in doubles. The program was much the same as in Canton, though more intense, with 40 to 50 "all star" national team members guided by eight very tough coaches.

Completely government supported, all of the training and traveling expenses for Yao were paid for and he received the same salary that any citizen of the communist country received. Though Yao's rise through the badminton system did not represent any financial gain over his peers, it did save his parents the cost of providing support had he remained at home.

Perhaps because China's sports programs are government sponsored, without private individually-oriented support, much of the selection and training processes involve character development. The Chinese

believe that it is very important to have an impeccable sportsman-like attitude, even above winning, because you represent many more people than just yourself, including your country as a whole.

Prior to 1981, China was not a part of the International Badminton Federation. That prevented its players from participating in contests in most of the countries of the world, especially those with the media to publicize competitions to the "free" world. Chinese badminton remained an enigma, and controversy swirled around whether their play was of international calibre.

In 1980 a match was scheduled in Singapore with the recognized world power of badminton--Indonesia. Yao and Sun provided a crucial victory over Tsung Tsung and Chandra of Indonesia en route to a 5-4 Chinese team "upset."



When the World Games were held in Santa Clara, California in 1981, it was the first time China would be represented in a truly international event. Yao and Sun emerged as the world champions, helping confirm China's badminton prowess.

Yao remembers these two titles as his most exciting and satisfying. They were the ultimate realization of his goal to excel, which he had set when he was 14 years old. With ten years of badminton training, he had attained the highest honor.

Yao's success continued in 1982 with another critical contribution in China's Thomas Cup victory over Indonesia, 5-4, as China became the new recognized world badminton power. And later that year, Yao and Sun took a first place trophy at the Asian Games, along with contributing to another victory over Indonesia, 3-2.

At the 1983 World Cup in Malaysia, Yao hurt his back, was sidelined for several months, and had to slow down his training. Though he can still compete at the world class level, his training cannot be as intense and the Chinese national staff would prefer to use him as a coach. With the political changes allowing more personal freedom in China, Yao has recently chosen to come to the United States.

Yao's aspirations continue to focus on badminton. He would like to continue to train and compete. More importantly, he would like to help the United States realize its potential in badminton by relaying his knowledge and actively promoting the sport. He also would like to be an integral part of raising the American standard of play, even beyond his own, by the 1992 Olympics.

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The following is from an interview with Yao Ximing of China by Guy Chadwick with interpreter Kenny Wong.

# TOURNAMENT

## Arizona Invitational - Oct 12-13 - Tempe, Arizona

Arizona State University's badminton squad demonstrated its national stature when team members collected all five open titles.

ASU student and #1 US ranked singles player Chris Jogis captured the triple crown. Jogis defeated teammate Benny Lee in the single's final 15-11, 15-13, and joined with Lee to trounce Marty French and Dean Schoppe of California 15-2, 15-5 in the men's doubles final. In addition Jogis and partner Mary Fran Hughes continued their season's success in mixed doubles by narrowly edging ASU teammates Karl Knudsen and Nina Lolk 9-15, 15-10, 18-13.

Lolk, from Copenhagen, Denmark, signaled her rising National prominence by capturing the ladies single's title, with a finals victory over nationally ranked Ann French of Arizona 5-11, 11-6, 11-6. Mary Fran Hughes and Linda French, also of ASU, beat Ann French and Mary House (CA) in the ladies doubles final 15-12, 15-12.

## California Gran Prix I - Oct 19-20 - Sunnyvale, CA

Chris Jogis (AZ) dominated ASU teammate Benny Lee 15-2, 15-7 in the singles final, after Lee had upset #4 U.S. ranked Gary Higgins (CA) in the semifinals 15-7, 8-15, 15-6. John Britton (CA) and Higgins continued their formidable streak in doubles, beating Jogis and Lee 15-9, 15-10 in the finals.

Jogis and mixed partner Mary Fran Hughes (AZ) continued their victory string by downing Lee

and Linda French in the finals 15-12, 15-12.

Joy Kitzmiller (CA), #2 U.S. ranked ladies singles player, survived a semifinal upset bid by Linda Safarik (CA) 5-11, 11-9, 11-5, and went on to soundly defeat Mary Fran Hughes in the finals 11-5, 11-1. Kitzmiller also teamed with Meiling Okuno (CA) to beat Traci Britton (CA) and Safarik for the ladies doubles trophy 17-14, 15-5. Safarik, the former junior national champion, appears to be coming out of retirement.

## Eastern States Open - Nov 8-10 - Greenwich, CT

Hosted by the Greenwich Badminton Club of the Metropolitan Badminton Association, the Eastern States Open boasted its largest draw ever.

Barb McKinley (MA) survived a stiff challenge from Nancy Weber (IL) to take the women's singles title 9-11, 11-3, 11-9. In the women's doubles final, McKinley and Dawn Race (IN) handily defeated the team of Nadine Thompson (DC) and Pirjo Teraviene of Finland 15-5, 15-4. Teraviene is a George Washington University student.

Two relative newcomers, both very talented foreign imports, battled for the men's singles trophy. Vincent Ming, now attending MIT and formerly of Indonesia, prevailed over Hugh Dyus, a #2 ranked South African who currently lives in New York, 15-11, 17-14.

The solid nationally ranked men's doubles duo of Dick McKinley (MA) and Guy Rittmann (RI) were victorious, blowing past Don and Larry Rittmann (RI) in the finals 15-2, 15-4.

This left what would turn out to be a tragic, yet heroic, tournament finish in the concluding final of mixed doubles.

Vincent Ming and Dawn Race held a 14-12 lead and the serve in the third game of a hard fought match against Guy Rittmann and Barb McKinley. A rally ensued in which Race seized the opportunity for a put away near the net -- she dove, landed strangely and severely hurt her knee. Although she will be out of action for a few months, Race has some consolation in knowing that her effort brought them the mixed doubles trophy 15-12, 8-15, 15-12.

## Arizona High School State Finals - Nov 8-9 - Scottsdale, AZ

Horizon High School of Scottsdale, Arizona hosted the state high school team and individual championships for 17 schools that qualified for the finals.

Prescott High School, coached by Rick Bothell, took the first place team award with 12 points. Corona del Sol High School collected 9 1/2 points for second place, and Dobson High School earned third place honors with 7 points.

Prescott High was led by their #1 player Stephanie Hiatt who survived a tough double elimination format and captured the state singles title when she defeated Amy Coyle of Dobson High 11-12, 11-1, 11-5 in the final match.

Corona del Sol High's Tarci Guy and Leslie Powell combined to grab the state doubles trophy by defeating Vivian Holm and Erica Klein of Moon Valley High School 15-7, 15-11.

# RESULTS

## Pacific SouthWest - Nov 9-10 - Pasadena, CA

As the host Pasadena Badminton Club showed off its beautifully refinished courts, club member Trisno Tobing pulled off consecutive upsets over #7 U.S. ranked Bob Gilmour (CA) and #6 ranked Guy Chadwick (CA) in men's singles. That gave Tobing a finals berth against #4 Gary Higgins (CA), but to no avail. Higgins defeated the tiring Tobing 15-11, 15-5 for the title.

In women's singles and doubles, visiting Peruvian sisters Sylvia and Gloria Jimenez, the top players in their country, dominated. Sylvia took the singles title and together they captured the doubles.

An inspired Bob Dickie and Bob Gilmour (CA) prevailed over Chadwick and Gary Shelstad (CA) in an exciting men's doubles semifinal 15-14, 8-15, 15-12. But Dickie and Gilmour succumbed to the invincible duo of John Britton (CA) and Higgins in the finals 15-11, 15-11.

The mixed pair of Paisan and Terry Lira collected the mixed crown by scoring an impressively easy victory over the Shelstad and Ann French in the finals 15-1, 15-1.

## Western States Open - Dec 7-8 - Manhattan Beach, CA

Hard fought matches abounded and a few major upsets were scored at the Western States Open hosted by the Manhattan Beach Badminton Club.

Reigning national champion Chris Jogis (AZ) again notched a singles title by defeating ASU teammate Benny Lee in the finals, 15-9, 15-9. But each player had

struggled through three-game semifinals.

It wasn't until the second half of the third game that Jogis finally found his mark against the upset-minded Guy Chadwick (CA) 15-13, 6-15, 15-6. And Lee earned an important "international" victory by just outdistancing last year's Western States' singles champion and several time Peruvian national champion Federico Valdez 18-17, 12-15, 15-11.

The ladies singles saw #2 U.S. ranked Joy Kitzmiller (CA) fall early to the eventual tournament winner Gloria Jimenez of Peru in straight games, 12-11, 11-5. Gloria beat Linda Safarik (CA) in the semifinals 11-5, 10-12, 11-1, to face Ann French (AZ) in the finals. Ann had defeated Gloria's sister Sylvia in a hard fought semifinals 11-7, 6-11, 11-6, but Gloria proved too strong in the finals 11-3, 11-2.

As a team, the Peruvian sisters also proved too strong for the American women competitors as they edged out Ann French and Pam Owens (CA) in a close finals 15-12, 7-15, 18-16.

The mixed doubles saw current U.S. mixed champion Mike Walker team with Linda Safarik and just survive in the finals against the rather unorthodox and streaky play of Paul Rubin and partner Pam Owens 15-7, 12-15, 17-14.

The big upset came in the men's doubles at the expense of current U.S. National and recent U.S. Open Champions John Britton and Gary Higgins of Manhattan Beach. Mike Walker and "pick-up" partner Federico Valdez played consistent enough doubles to take advantage of Higgins' hampered mobility due to a knee-injury.

In fact, but for a remarkable comeback and series of clutch rallies late in the second game by Britton and Higgins, Walker and Valdez would have won in two relatively easy straight games. Britton and Higgins even were up 7-3 in the third game before Walker and Valdez used nearly flawless shot placements to deny their opponents all but one more point and the match win 15-6, 17-18, 15-8.

## Christmas Tournament - Dec 21-22 - Palo Alto, CA

The annual Christmas Tournament held at the Cubberly gymnasium in Palo Alto featured top men's singles and doubles draws.

The men's singles draw was formatted such that four pools of four players each played round-robin matches to place the winners into the semifinals. National champion Chris Jogis (AZ), Peter Baum (CA), Yao Ximing (CA), and John Matta (CA), who had upset nationally ranked Benny Lee (AZ) in his pool, each advanced to the semifinals.

Jogis defeated Baum, and Yao defeated Matta to bring about an exciting final match. Though Jogis played one of his best matches, the court coverage and fire power of Yao proved too much. Jogis was unable to cap many dazzling rallies with the necessary put-away as the recent visitor from China prevailed 15-12, 15-7.

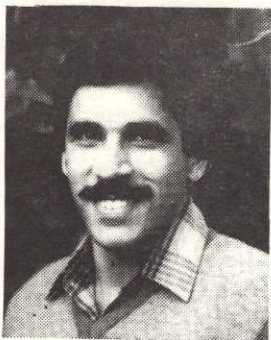
But Jogis received his revenge in the men's doubles finals. He, with the inspired help of his partner Benny Lee, overcame an 11-3 first game deficit against Yao and Baum to win 18-14, 15-11. This title was no small feat considering the world champion men's doubles calibre of Yao.



# LATEST TID-BITS

## MBBC NAMES COACH

The Manhattan Beach Badminton Club has named Tariq Wadood of Pakistan, as club professional beginning January 1986. Wadood, nine times Pakistani national champion, and once ranked in the top 5 in the world, was selected for his outstanding international badminton experience and his junior coaching credentials.



## OUR APOLOGIES.....

The last issue of The Badminton Magazine named the "Top 8 U.S. Men's Singles Players". Due to a printing error the names of Hussey and Jogis were reversed.



## THE BOY SCOUTS

In conjunction with The Boy Scouts of America, USBA President Dr. Stan Hales has arranged for the February 1986 Scouting Manual to include a badge for accomplishments in the sport of badminton. Awards will be granted for achieving skills, for tournament participation, and for bringing an adult out to play for a specified length of time.

## ADULT, SENIOR, AND JUNIOR NATIONALS

The U.S. National Adult Badminton Championships will be held March 24-28, 1986 at the Sunnyvale Community Indoor Sports Center in Sunnyvale, California. The U.S. National Senior, Master, Grand Master, and Golden Master Championships will be held at the same location on March 23-24. Entries for both championships are due to the USBA by January 23, 1986.

The U.S. National Junior Badminton Championships will be hosted by the Manhattan Beach Badminton Club in Manhattan Beach, California during the week of March 30 - April 6, 1986.

Entries for each of the four age categories under 19 years of age are due by February 25, 1986 to MBBC junior chairman David Levin.

## UBER CUP SELECTIONS ANNOUNCED.....

Coach Toutz announced Uber Cup team members after a recent tryout held at the Pasadena Badminton Club. Those selected were: Traci Britton, Linda French, Judi Kelly, Joy Kitzmiller, Nina Lolk, Mei Ling Okuno, Monica Ortez, and Pam Owens.

## THOMAS CUP TEAM ANNOUNCED.....

At a January 24-26 Thomas Cup team try-out tournament conducted at MBBC, Coaches Jim Poole & Len Hill selected this year's team. Those selected were: Tony Alston, John Britton, Matt Fogarty, Chris Jogis, Benny Lee, Sanjay Malde, Bruce Pontow, and Mike Walker.

## TOUTZ VISITS MALAYSIA

Vicki Toutz, current U.S. National Uber Cup coach, has just returned from Malaysia where she visited for 10 days to learn the latest in coaching techniques. Toutz went at her own expense.



## USBA NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The United States Badminton Association recently named Raymond G. Scott as their new Executive Director. Scott will be replacing Tom Carmichael who held the position the previous two years.

Scott will be moving the USBA offices from Michigan to Nebraska. The USBA's new mailing address is:

**USBA  
501 W. 6th Street  
Papillion, NB 68046**

Scott, a recently retired Air Force officer, has been actively involved with the Topflight Badminton Club for many years. He was intricately involved in hosting the 3 national adult badminton championships held at Offutt Air Force Base in '72, '79, '80.

Scott will be handling the day to day operations of the USBA. This is a difficult transitional period for the USBA as it prepares itself to be brought under the umbrella of the U.S. Olympic Committee, but Scott is looking forward to the challenge of manning the helm.

# EDITORS COMMENTS

## SCHOLASTIC STAR



The Badminton Magazine's first ever "Scholastic Star" is Stephanie Hiatt, a senior at Prescott (AZ) High School.

Stephanie led her badminton team to a 12-0 season, a first place team finish in the AAA Skyline division tournament, and a first-place team finish in the Arizona high school state tournament.

Lettering on varsity all 4 years, with a combined singles and doubles record of 77-7, her game features artful drops, accurate offensive clears and a powerful smash.

Stephanie also helped lead Prescott's basketball team to its first state tournament appearance and is the sports editor for the school paper.

Congratulations to Stephanie Hiatt and best of luck in the future.

*Editor's Note: Coaches -- let The Badminton Magazine know about the "Scholastic Star" in your area!*

Greetings and best wishes for a wonderful new year. 1985 was certainly an interesting year for badminton-- the inclusion in the Olympics, a new USBA President, and the crowning of new national champions.

With 1986 upon us, let us hope for a "year of significance". A year which sees our Thomas and Uber Cup teams earn respect-- a year in which our Nationals provide large draws, upsets and enthusiastic crowds-- a year in which U.S. badminton gains the ability to promote itself in a professional manner.

Not being a clairvoyant I can't predict the future but I do want to express my hopes for the badminton season.

- A long awaited national title for Tony Alston...
- 5,000 new memberships for the USBA...
- For all, a service "ace" against Bruce Pontow or Mike Walker...
- A reason for Vicki Toutz to smile in Vancouver...
- Badminton included in more collegiate programs...
- A big international upset for Chris Jogis...
- A healthy year for the many "walking wounded" of badminton...
- One more point for Joy Kitzmiller...
- The return of Chris Kinard, Charley Coakley, and Rodney Barton to the courts...
- A National Championship with more spectators than participants...
- Bionic knees for Pam Brady...
- Shuttles which last an entire match and cost \$1.00...
- Renewed interest for Cheryl Carton-White...
- Badminton covered on Wide World of Sports...
- Tighter shorts on Bob Gilmour...
- A U.S. Nationals held in Hawaii...
- 25 promising juniors for Len Hill's tutelage...
- The continued generosity of all the badminton vendors...

For everyone-- may your smashes land in bounds and all your "tape shots" trickle over... a healthy and prosperous new year for all of us in the badminton world.

Cassandra Sophia Salapatas-Metz  
Editor-In-Frared

Badminton's Wonderdog, "RICKY"



**LOOK WHAT'S COMING UP  
NEXT ISSUE ...**

- \* U.S. Nationals
- \* Thomas / Uber Cup coverage
- \* Interview with ???
- \* Plus much more !

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Stan Hales almost hit the nail on the head in his October article when he said that badminton deserves more U.S. media attention and public popularity.

I say "almost" because I think Stan goes too far in implying that badminton is the equal of tennis and among the "world's most demanding sports."

Badminton is fabulous and I love it. For athletes and duffers alike, it provides great exercise, challenging play, year-round competition, and as much good will among players and opponents as any sport I know. I've played for 20 years and plan to play for 20 more. Badminton certainly deserves more media attention. And the American public is missing out--frankly-- on one of the best sports available to everyone from eight to 80 years of age.

But I've played tennis even longer, and I know it's tougher to play well. You need a lot more arm and shoulder strength to play tennis, and it's a lot harder on the legs and knees -- especially if you are being run all over a concrete court by a tough opponent.

To return a hard tennis serve, your reactions have to be darn fast, or play ends right there. And your vision better be sharp if you want to avoid all the frustration over calling 100 m.p.h. shots "in" or "out."

Stan's statistics really prove a far more important point -- that badminton is excellent game for athletes at every level. Against someone of your own skill, you'll spend a lot more time playing badminton than tennis, enjoy a lot more shots in your rallies, and be far less frustrated. Badminton is also a much more sociable game, it seems to me, because you are close enough to

your opponent to maintain eye contact and converse in a normal voice. Rather than having to holler at someone 100 feet away, "What did you say? Was it in or out?"

As far as "most demanding" sports are concerned, I'll bet being a gladiator took the all time prize! It all depends on how you define "most demanding." Today, most of us recognize that sports like boxing, hockey, football, rugby, and even racketball are among the most demanding, as well as most dangerous. Neither tennis nor badminton are really in a class with those.

It will be nice if the 1988 Olympics do something to promote badminton in the United States. But don't count on it. Even if the media takes a shine to it -- which won't happen unless the U.S. somehow fields a medal-winning team -- the general public won't get interested unless the sport is promoted commercially and becomes a fad.

That might actually do more harm than good for those of us who really love to play.

My own opinion is that efforts to promote badminton should concentrate on reviving and building school programs in order to attract youngsters, and on maintaining and improving access to community gyms for existing players all over the country.

The first step can help assure a steady crop of new players long into the future. The second will ensure that all of us badminton nuts -- young and old alike -- will be able to find places to play and fellow players wherever we go.

Tom Siebert  
Granada Hills, CA

## COACHING TIP

How would you like to improve your ACCURACY, CONSISTENCY, ENDURANCE, and MENTAL TOUGHNESS all with a simple drill?

### --- PLAY HALF-COURT SINGLES.

Half-court singles is fun, and a skill builder for all levels of players. Use standard singles rules, but with the middle service line serving as one sideline boundary.

Coaches Note: Using this drill allows four players to practice singles at the same time on one court.

For more advanced singles players, here's another game-situation drill to improve FOOTWORK, ENDURANCE, SHOT-MAKING SKILLS, AND MENTAL TOUGHNESS.

### --- TWO AGAINST ONE SINGLES.

Both sides use the singles court and standard singles rules, with the 2-player side using only one server. Generally, the 2-player side should try to prolong each rally, while the single player attempts to win each rally and eliminate unforced errors.

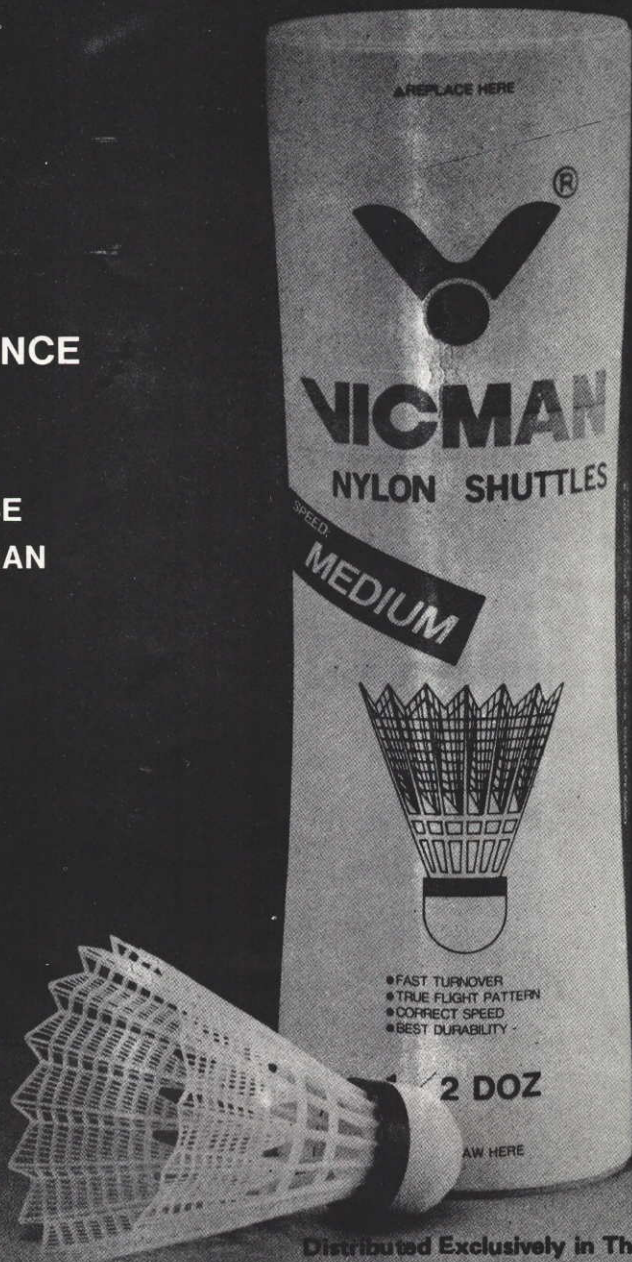
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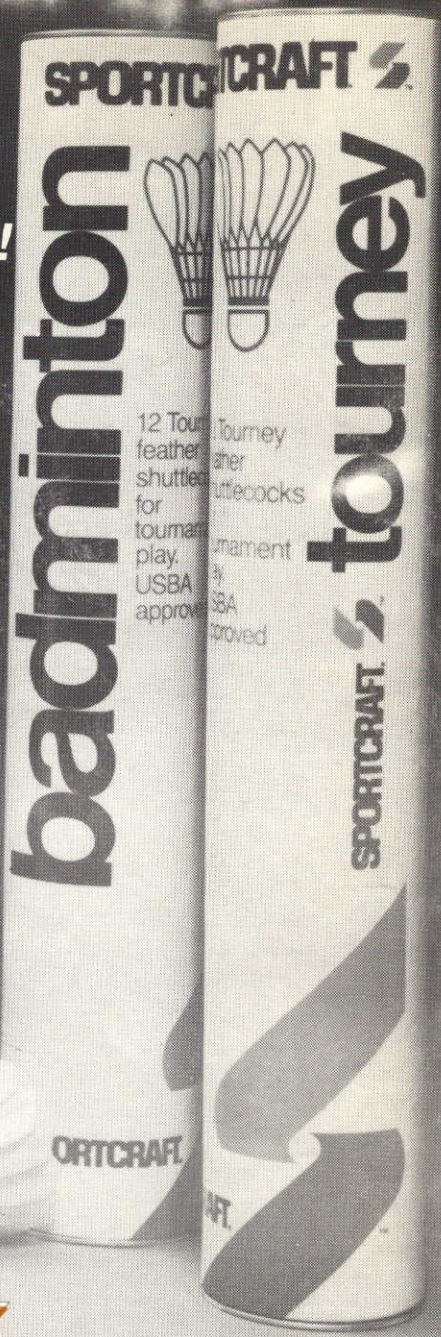
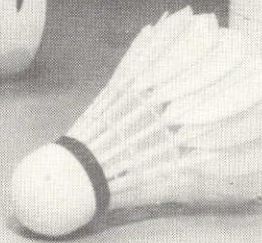
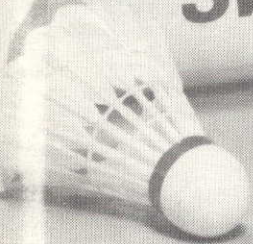
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