## How to prepare for tournaments

By DAVID W. STEWART

There is nothing like one tough tour-nament match to harden your game. All the pros know this, but most club players never think about it.

The ultimate form of tennis competition is the tournament.

The atmosphere is different: Knees shake, adrenalin pumps, and the breath comes in short pants.

A practice set can never equal a tournament contest. You can learn more from one tournament loss than from a dozen practice wins.

When top players talk about "experience," they mean playing a tournament match under many different conditions. The experienced player has played matches against retrievers, topspin-artists, cannonball-servers, lobbers, baseliners, net-rushers, touch-

artists, stallers, needlers, and hot

tempers.

He or she has played on poorly lit courts, on courts filled with cracks, rain soaked courts at 9 a.m. or midnight — depressed, exhilarated, bored and tense

and tense.

The player with experience can handle any of the above situations with more confidence than the inexperienced player. The experienced player will always be favored in a crucial contest against an opponent with less experience.

MOST PLAYERS who have never entered a tournament fall into one of two categories — overeager or overhesitant. Some get sick to their stomachs or burst into tears an hour be-

fore match time. Then, there is the player who is cool

and unflustered until the moment the first warmup ball is hit. Then he or she starts to tremble and gets a "steel el-bow." Most good players can recall the first tournament match they lost, and in most cases the losses were bad ones. Here are a few suggestions which might help the next time you play a tournament — particularly if you have never played one before:

• If you are beaten 6-0, 6-0, you have made your opponent very happy. Don't be embarrassed by the lopsided score since your opponent would much prefer an easy victory.

• If your opponent is too good for

an easy victory.

If your opponent is too good for you, never stop trying. You may be winning very tew games or points, but you can work to see the ball earlier and start moving earlier.

Do not let anyone read your face. Should you be spraying balls wildly,

time and stay light on your feet.

• Play the ball, not your opponent, at all times. Look only at the ball not the opponent and certainly not the spectaries. When the ball comes fast, turn your shoulders fast.

• When the spin and pace is too much for you, don't give up. Try lobbing back, forget about driving it. Whatever you do, don't give up.

• Never think about how foolish you look. Nobody cares. Spectators will love you, if you fight for every point. Always remember — never give up.

If you are competitive, take the step and enter that first tournament. Remember the best players in the world had to take the same step and they experienced the same step and they experie

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# In The Pocket. THE OLD TIMERS were Frank Doyle with in 598, Marie Crite paced had a big day at Wood- 534, Ken Croft with 559, the ladies with 478. Land Lanes. Gordon Benry Settles with 558, Don Cenchanko had with 542. Others in line Ray Chamberlain a 201 wound up with 279 to Novak was next with 558.

these days is the rise of the junior bowlers.

Once cast aside to bowl at unusual hours to make room for adults, the junifors now are taking their place in the bowling sun and sounding a warning to the all stars that they are on their way.

One of these young lads is Dave Hamilton of Farmington, who this week rolled his first 700 farmington, who this week rolled his first 700 farmington. And while all the heavy for seven has seen of the first sound the first

above Mike Lee, the southpaw who linked control of 246, 258 and 238 with top honors in the Livonia Ladies Classic. breaker was the work of Ken Lang, who opened with a 238, followed with with 258 and closed with 21 for 717.

On the women's side of the classic top honors with 1494-138 — 632. The classic top honors with 1494-138 — 632. The classic top honors with 1494-138 — 632. The with 1494-139 — 1944.

mind. Chances are you will be fearing more than the mind. The most approximate the mind. The mind the

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THE PINBUSTERS lived up to their name at PLaza Lanes when it seemed to be 600 or no

FLAZA Lanes when it seemed to be 600 or no count. The top pin buster was Don Rousseau with 680 men. Then, in order, came Buzz Ray with 558, Jim Mussat with 626, Greg Prestone with 623, Dennis Seeman with 607, Kevin Wonder with 603 and Richard Smith with 602.

In the Kings and Queens loop Jim Mieras was the pacemaker with a closing 257 in 683. In the Plymouth men's league top honors went to Joe Barbee with 633 and Dennis Seeman was next with 602.

DICK HALL had one of DICK HALL had one of his best nights in the Misfits loop at Garden Lanes. He closed with a 285 in 652 and Rick Setlock was right behind with a 534. In the Mose league Dave Moran was tops with 615. This was 18 pins more than Jim Dea in second place. In the LOF. loop Phil Dint rolled 595 to beat Jim Calument by a single pin.

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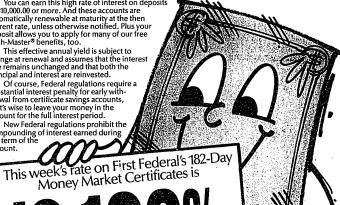
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