

Joel Davidson

Joel was Abraham Lincoln High School's first singles player while National Hall of Famer Joe Durso was second singles.

In 1973, at 17 years of age, Davidson entered his first national one-wall event. He was 17. He defeated five of the best players of the day, including three eventual National Hall of Famers: Al Torre, Steve Sandler, and Mark Levine (The other players he defeated were Charlie Sheldon and Bruce Davidoff, both now members of the NYHHOF.) to become the youngest One-Wall National Singles Champion in the history of the game, a record that still stands as of this writing (2017).

Joel then went on to pursue college studies, but in 1974 he returned to the courts for his second and last appearance in a sanctioned national event, the AAU One-Wall. Without much practice, he advanced all the way to the quarter-finals, where he was vanquished in three tough games by Al Torres. Joel surely would have been among the best ever.

PLAYERS OF DISTINCTION

