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SQUASH

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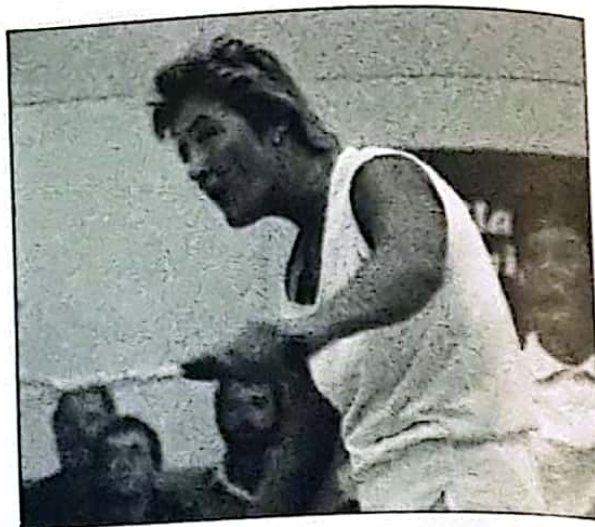
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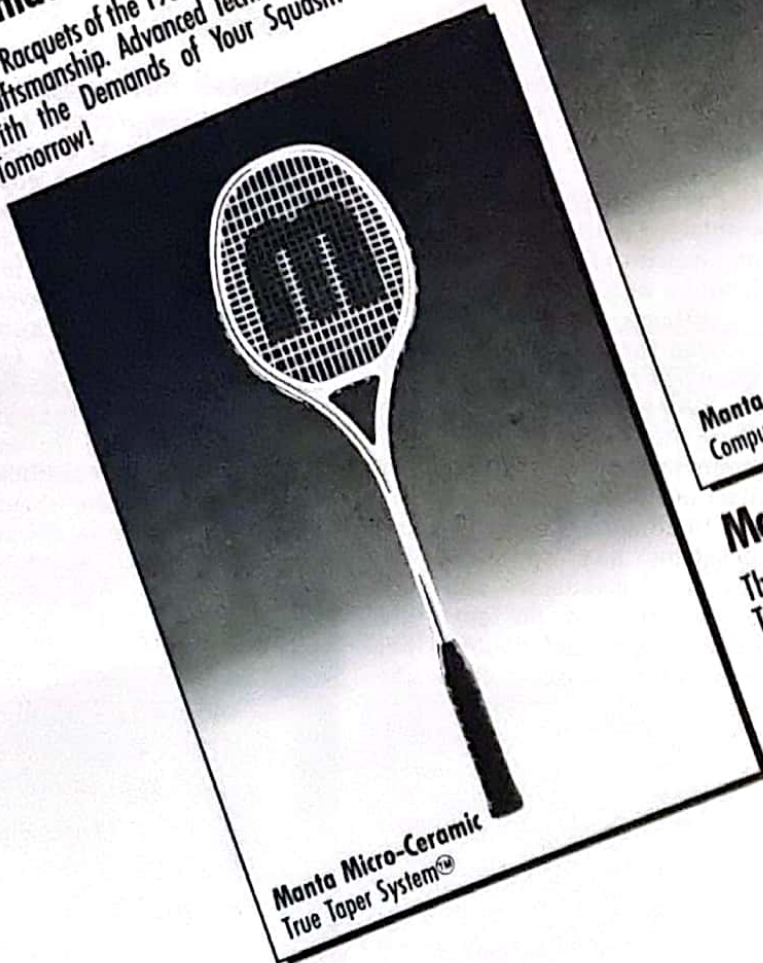
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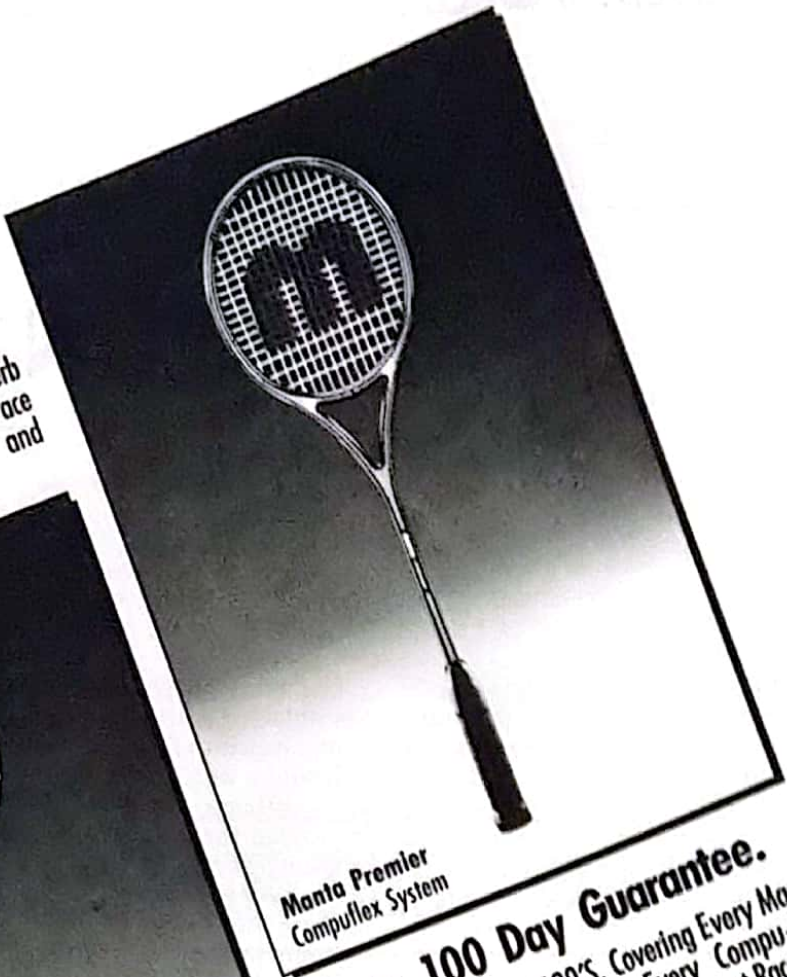
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MID SEASON NEWS

BY JOHN BOYNTON

There have been a number of developments in the squash world since my last column which I think are noteworthy.

The most exciting development is that squash has been accepted into the 1991 Canada Games in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. This event will bring squash further into the limelight as a national and international sport. Squash Ontario will be developing a full scale plan to assist in preparing our athletes for this event.

...THE CANADA GAMES WILL BRING SQUASH EVEN FURTHER INTO THE LIMELIGHT

The Amstel Light Charity Squash Challenge is progressing well and all indications are that the participation will be significantly greater than last year. This event is a very important undertaking for Squash Ontario. In previous years we have been able to raise a significant contribution to worthwhile charities while at the same time running a tournament which reaches to the grassroots players of the game. It is our hope that all squash players will participate in and support the tournament. Furthermore, without the financial support of Amstel Brewery Canada Limited, this event would be very difficult, if not impossible, to run. We would also

strongly urge you to support Amstel and the other numerous companies which assist in the development of our game.

Our office, as you may be aware, has obtained a new computer and is in the process of amassing a list of individuals who are coaches, players and officials with a view to improving the participation in and administration of tournaments. Those people who wish to be added to these lists to receive information on tournaments, clinics, etc. should contact our office.

The International Squash Rackets Federation has approved the inclusion of mandatory eyeguards into the rules of the game for hardball singles and doubles. The wearing of eyeguards will thereby become as fundamental to these games as boundary lines and scoring. This rule will be adopted by the Canadian Squash Racquets Association and will become effective September 1st, 1988. This decision is certainly a significant step forward for proponents of the universally mandatory eyeguard issue.

Two incidents of significance occurred recently which were not on the positive note but nonetheless require mentioning. One of our clubs recently held an event in which a player "not in good standing" was knowingly permitted to play. Sport Canada in concert with the various sport governing bodies, including the C.S.R.A. and Squash Ontario, established guidelines for all sports receiving government assistance. It was agreed that the recipient sports were to take strong measures to prevent its members from participating in South Africa. A substantial portion of the funds which the Canadian Squash Racquets Association and Squash Ontario utilize to operate its junior

programmes, coaching clinics, tournaments, etc. is received from the government sector. It was therefore decided that rather than jeopardize these important programmes, our two bodies would impose a ban on players choosing to compete in South Africa. There are two players currently under suspension for this reason, Gary Waite and Gordon Anderson. Restricting players from participating in tournaments is counter-productive to the development of the game but unfortunately a necessity under certain circumstances. We strongly urge all clubs to assist in upholding these regulations.

...MANDATORY EYEGUARDS WILL BE A FUNDAMENTAL RULE TO HARBALL SINGLES AND DOUBLES

The second situation which recently occurred was the suspension of Dr. William Rankovic from playing in Squash Ontario sanctioned events. The suspension resulted from a serious violation of the game's Code of Conduct. This suspension includes league play and is in effect until June 15th, 1988.

Squash Ontario exists to administer and develop the game of squash. If there are any areas which you wish discussed or investigated, please let us know and we will make every attempt to address them. ●

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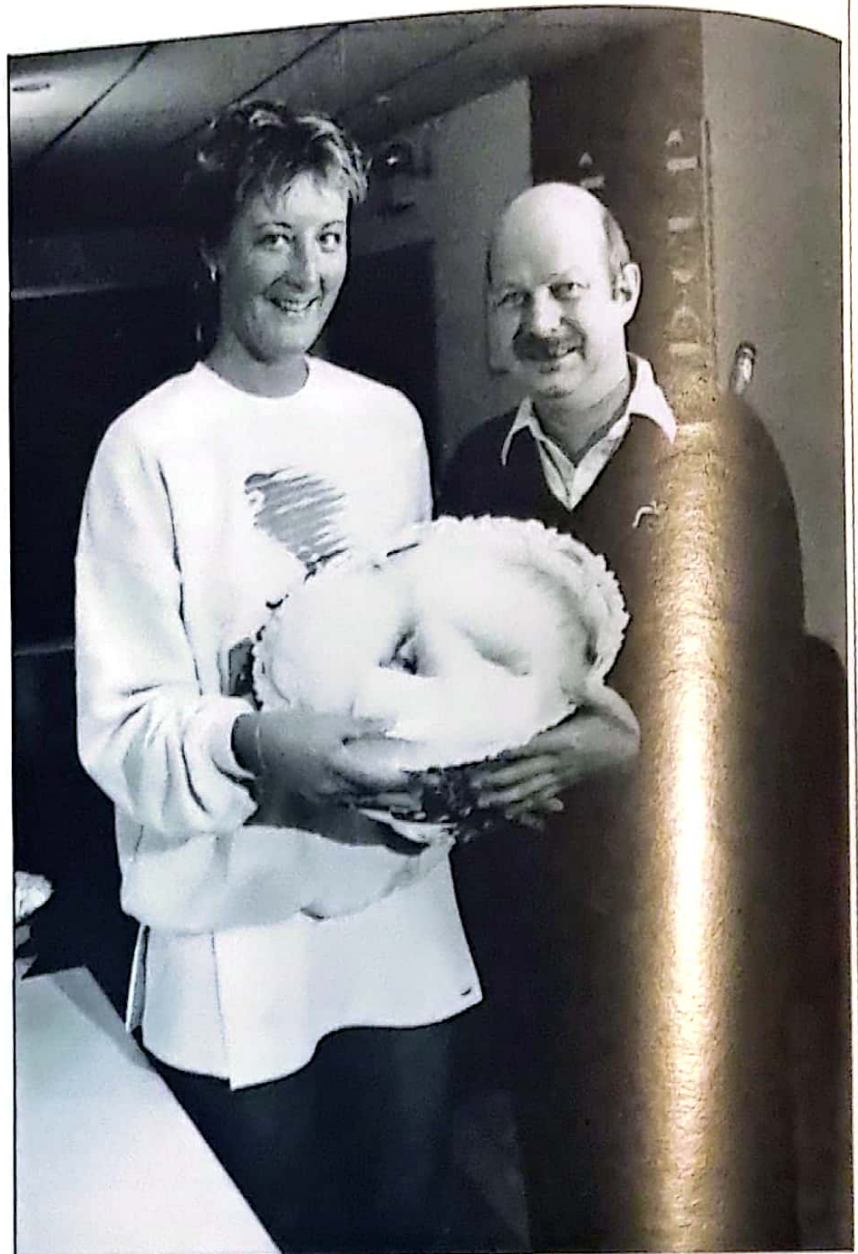
**MARTINE LE MOIGNAN
RETAINS TITLE**

BY ALAN SMITH

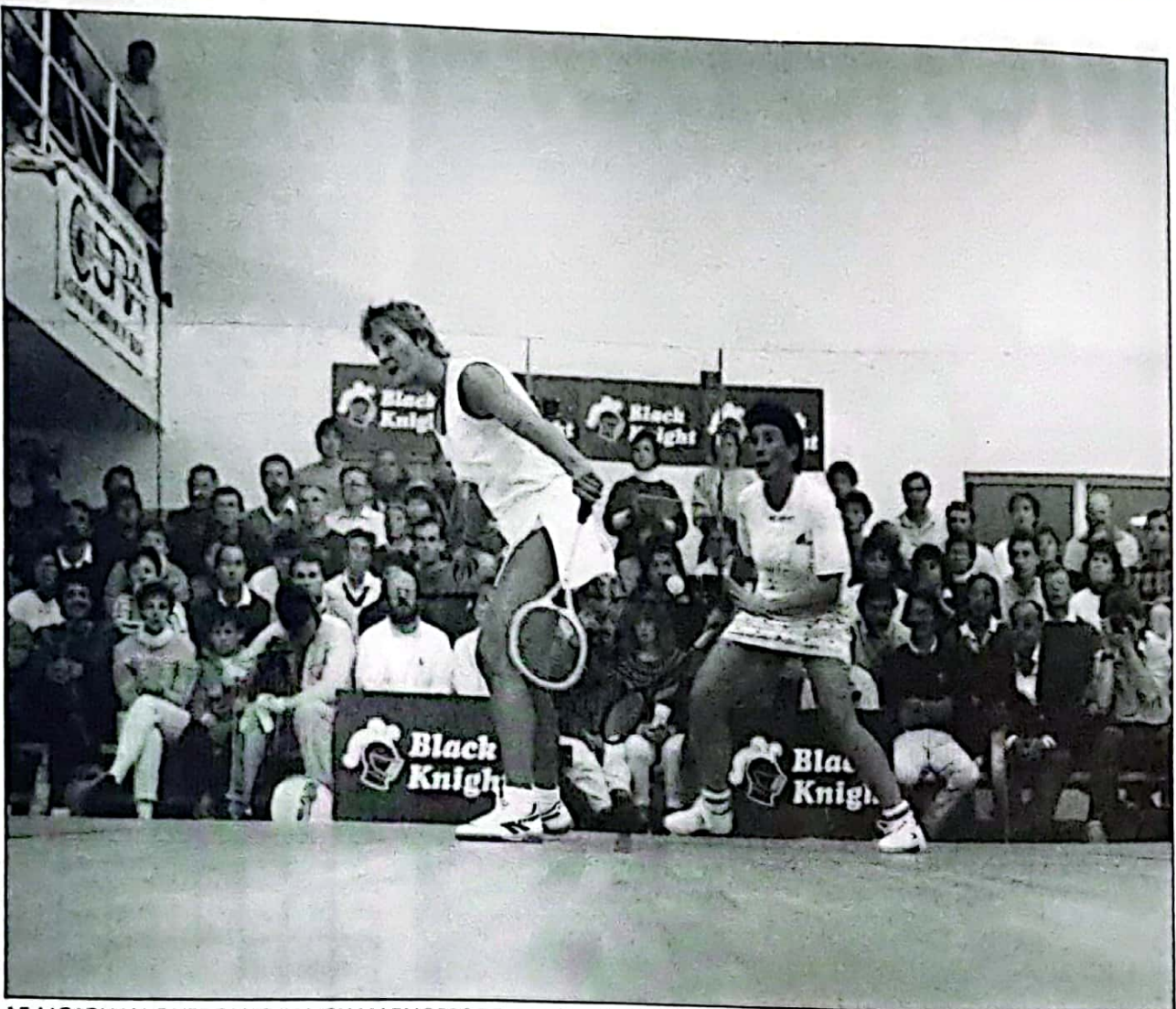
In its short three year history, the Canadian Women's Open Squash Championship, sponsored in 1987 by Black Knight Enterprises Limited, has seen many challengers but only Martine LeMoignan of England has been able to claim the title. The victim this time was a well-prepared Heather Wallace, now residing in Ottawa after moving from Scotland a year and a half ago. The match was as close as the 8-10, 9-4, 10-8, 9-4 score would indicate, but the final outcome was the same.

The 1987 Championship at The Harbour Club, November 26-29, in Belleville, Ontario (which also hosted the inaugural event in 1985) featured a strong draw including the #1 players from the U.S. and the Netherlands, Alicia McConnell and Babette Hoogendoorn; as well as virtually all of the top ranked players from across Canada playing for \$7,500 in prize money. The preliminary round on Thursday produced several close, exciting matches, including some surprises that showed the competitiveness of many of the developing Canadian players.

Friday afternoon saw the debut of the top eight seeds and, for the most part, decisive 3-0 victories. A determined effort by National Junior Team members, Kelsey Lundmark (Calgary), against an off-form Women's Team member, Nancy Cranbury (Ottawa), resulted in the only upset victory, 8-10, 7-9, 9-3, 9-0, 9-4. The quarterfinals were equally one-sided, except for the battle between 3rd seed McConnell and 5th seed Gail Pimm (Toronto), the top Canadian.



BRUCE ALEXANDER OF BLACK KNIGHT WITH MARTINE LE MOIGNAN, EXCLUSIVE TITLE-HOLDER OF THE CANADIAN OPEN.



LE MOIGNAN OVERCAME ALL CHALLENGERS TO THE TITLE, INCLUDING THE FINALIST, HEATHER WALLACE, WORLD #10 OF OTTAWA.

Pimm put in a great effort against the powerful American player but fell just short when, after pulling back from 2-8 in the third game to 8-8, committed two critical unforced errors that gave the game back to McConnell 10-9, and subsequently the match 4-9, 9-6, 10-9, 9-4 in just under an hour. McConnell, who has only recently begun to compete regularly in the international game after dominating U.S. women's hardball for several years, showed amazing quickness as well as an interesting mix of hardball and softball shots that kept Pimm off balance.

Before the semifinals observers were speculating on whether McConnell could handle the power and shot making of LeMoignan, who had spent a total of less than 30 minutes on court in her previous two matches, and also whether the retrieving ability of rapidly improving Babette Hoogendoorn could counteract the shotmaking abilities of world #10, Heather Wallace. The first question was answered rather quickly with a discouraging 9-0, 9-0, 9-4 thrashing administered to Alicia by Martine. In this first meeting, it was clear that the American was

unprepared for the power and deceptive style of the veteran English player, but with more international experience she appears to have the talent to challenge the best.

The second semifinal featured an entertaining display of squash between Hoogendoorn and Wallace, with the Dutch player zipping all over the court and making numerous amazing gets, but being unable to control the frequent unforced errors that negated her efforts. In the end, Heather's

superior consistency won out and she took the match 6-9, 9-6, 9-1, 9-6.

The final was a great display of shot making, as both players hit knicks and drops so tight that returns were impossible. The use of the extra slow Merco double yellow dot was an obvious factor influencing the style of play. In the first game, Heather constantly forced the play to the left-handed LeMoignan's backhand and took advantage of periodic loose returns with precision drops. After

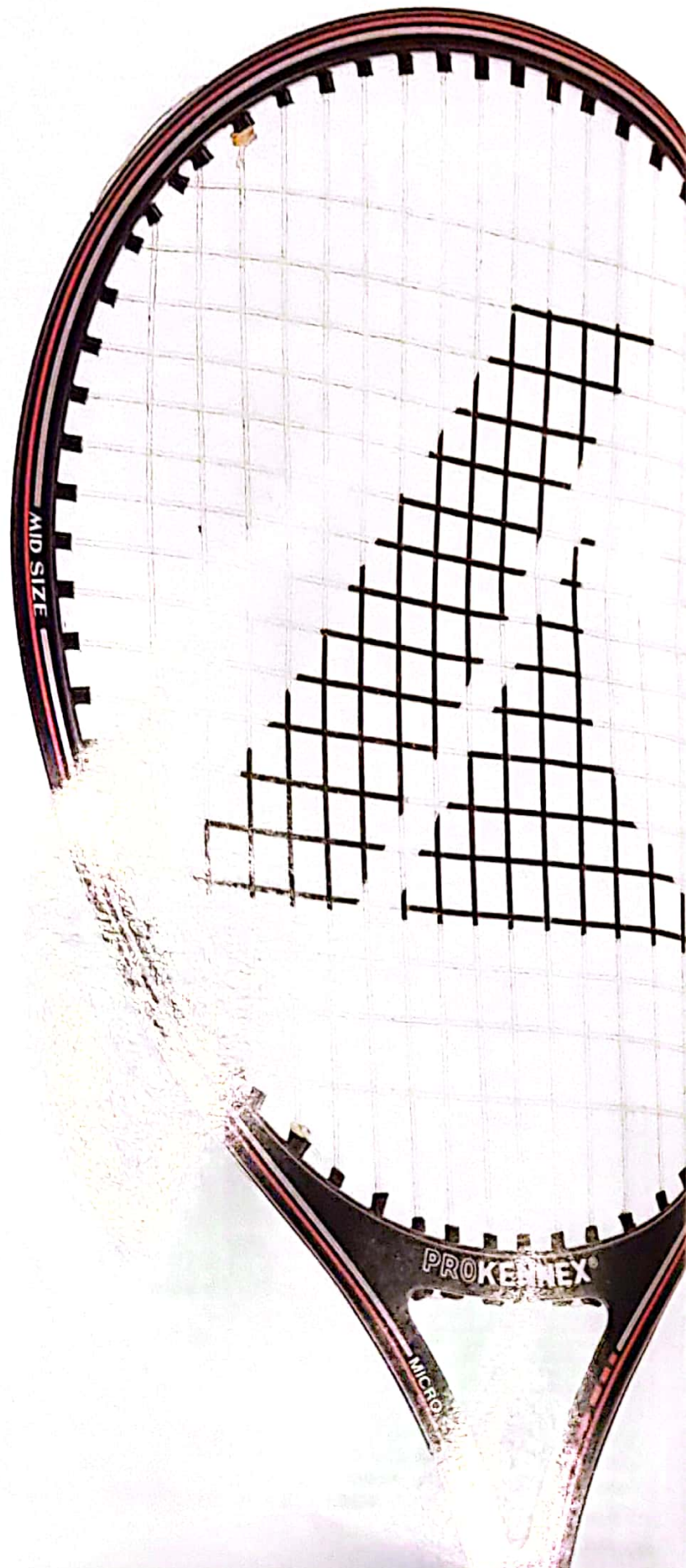
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coming back from a 3-6 deficit to take an 8-6 lead, Wallace looked in control. LeMoignan then tied the game before Wallace was able to pull it out 10-8. In the second game Martine was able to force the play to her forehand side and hit tight volley drops off any cross-courts attempted by Heather to win 9-4 in just 8 minutes. The third game proved the decider. With a 7-4 lead, LeMoignan had a brief lapse which resulted in three straight unforced errors into the tin. Wallace followed with a perfect volley drop knick to move to game ball. Unfortunately, at this point Heather tried to outguess Martine instead of playing a safe, tight drop shot and left the ball loose on Martine's forehand. A cross-court drive into the knick put LeMoignan back in control and she took the game 10-8 in short order. The final game was never in doubt, and LeMoignan had her third consecutive title 8-10, 9-4, 10-8, 9-4 and the \$1,500 first prize.

In the 3-4 playoff, Babette Hoogendoorn upset the higher ranked Alicia McConnell 3-9, 9-4, 10-8, 9-6. The third game was again the turning point with McConnell failing to capitalize on an 8-7 lead.

In the plate and classic plate playoffs, the favoured players prevailed, but not without a challenge. Gail Pimm took the classic plate for 5th place, defeating 1987 National Junior Team member, Amanda Paton (Edmonton), 9-4, 10-8, 7-9, 9-0 in an excellent semifinal and then Carla Jensen (Regina), 9-6, 9-5, 10-9 in the final. Jensen had barely squeaked by Kelsey Lundmark 10-8 in the fifth after being down 5-8 in her semifinal match.

Nancy Cranbury had little trouble in advancing to the plate final for 9th place giving up only 13 points in her three previous matches, but was given some stiff competition from Shelley Harvey (Ottawa), in the final before winning in five games after a full hour.

As in 1985, The Harbour Club, its members and staff, treated the players very warmly, billeting most of the participants and providing them a hospitable stay. The major sponsor, Black Knight Enterprises Limited, ensured a first-class event with their support, which supplemented by funding from Wintario, to help with administrative and promotional expenses, plus costs of bringing in top officials, as well as by Guaranty Trust, and other local supporters. Special thanks to Rob Lefcoe, the host professional at The Harbour Club, and Peter Morch, club manager, as well as Larry Jones from Ottawa, who acted as tournament referee-in-chief.

All participants and organizers are



BABETTE HOOGENDOORN (FRONTCOURT) UPSET U.S. #1, ALICIA MCCONNELL FOR THIRD PLACE FINISH.

keen to have the event return to Belleville in 1988 with a prize purse of \$15,000 to attract an even stronger draw of international players and make the event one of the premier stops on the Women's International Squash Players Association circuit. The

Championship, run under the auspices of the Canadian Squash Racquets Association, is crucial for providing exposure to top Canadian players to international players, which is so important for their future development. ●

Squash is my life!
by BROWNING

SQUASH TRAVELOG

SOUTH AMERICA AND ASIA PACIFIC

We have every reason to believe that squash is now played in over 100 countries around the world and, of those, well over 70 have National Associations participating in International competition.

The last three years have been a voyage of discovery for me, visiting many of these squash playing nations both old and new. From Finland to New Zealand the number of participants is steadily growing and the many cultural differences in the world play their part in creating a rich variety of playing styles — and interpretations of the rules!!

I am fortunate to be able to use a host of good excuses to visit many of these countries because the "International Office" administers the affairs of the professional player groups (men and women) as well as the affairs of the International Governing Body.

In the summer of 1986 I paid a visit to Brazil and the first ever world ranking tournament for men. The contact together with the success of the event assisted greatly in establishing contacts between South American squash playing nations and the ISRF. We were all delighted when Brazil entered a team in the Men's World Championships in London in October of this year and finished a creditable seventeenth in the world. We now have a number of South American players figuring on the men's world ranking and, with a total of nine world ranking events in Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Argentina and Peru this year, we look forward to a healthy growth in the sport in this region.

The players were the ambassadors for squash and the National Associations considered membership of the ISRF an advantage if it led to greater world exposure.

The summer of 1987 saw me off on my travels again — to Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Pakistan, Australia and New Zealand.

It was a real surprise to me that



ROGER EADY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE I.S.R.F.

anybody had time to play squash in Hong Kong but I was delighted to see that the game is now being taken up by the Chinese ethnic population. No longer is it the preserve of the expatriate — the Chinese are playing seriously and the interest is extending to the mainland. If badminton and table-tennis are examples of their racquet ability, how long will it before Khan is replaced by Chan?

But the Japanese are keeping a careful eye on developments in their usual thorough manner. The largest trading company in Japan sent teams of engineers and other experts to Europe and North America in 1986 to review squash and the facility requirements. I saw plenty of evidence in Tokyo that they are constructing clubs even though the acquisition of suitable land is so expensive. With their flair for innovation and development of old ideas we may well see the application of new technologies to the construction of squash courts. I believe that their development will be slow but that each stage will be carefully mapped out.

Singapore and Malaysia are booming and the sport has an excellent

name with the appropriate Education and Sports Council departments. Squash courts are being constructed on school campuses where the children play the game in the day leaving the courts for adult use in the evening. A most economical method of using facilities and introducing large numbers to the game.

Now to Australia, a vast country with a squash playing population estimated to be in excess of one million. Fierce rivalry between the states of Australia ensures the steady production of excellent young squash players each with an extremely tough competitive spirit. Squash is one of the selected sports in the Australian Institute of Sport and attracts considerable financial resources. Its "Centre of Excellence" is contained in the characters of Geoff Hunt and Heather McKay who operate the Squash School in Brisbane. The best young talent is encouraged to live, play squash, and be educated in Brisbane at Federal Government expense. The results so far, have been astounding and, Australian players display a wealth of talent on both the men's and women's world circuits. I would encourage other nations who are considering such a development to visit Brisbane. They will surely be impressed with the physical facilities but they will probably be even more impressed with the coaching excellence in the form of Geoff and Heather.

I am pleased to say that my Australian hosts also took me on a cultural visit to Botany Bay to show me where the "Pommies" landed the first convicts from the mother country. As an Englishman they asked me whether I felt a sense of guilt for the harshness of my ancestors. I thought for a moment and said — "Indeed not, what could be more heinous than stealing a loaf of bread or stealing a sheep?" "They could have been hanged; instead they shipped them off to sunny Australia at no cost to themselves." No more. 'Nice-Guy' next time round! ●

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Chris Dittmar Rebounds to win Canadian Open

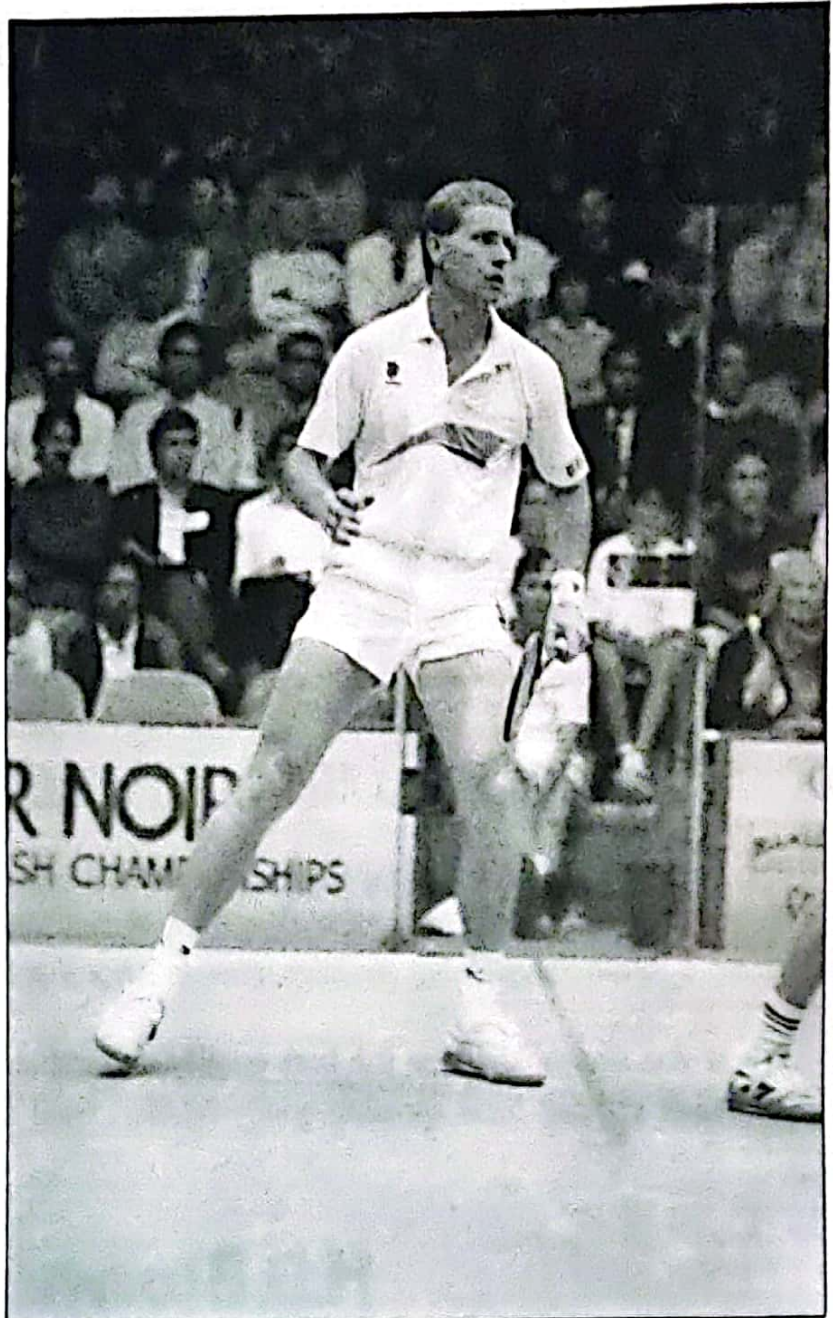
BY GRAHAM WATERS

It now seems obvious that Chris Dittmar of Australia is all the way back from the serious knee injury that threatened his career only two years ago. He outlasted fellow countryman Rodney Martin in the final of the 1987 Drakkar Noir International Squash Championships to add \$12,600 to his bank account. Martin collected \$8,400 second place money after dropping the final 12-15, 16-17, 15-12, 15-11, 15-10.

Martin had advanced to the final by upsetting newly crowned World Champion Jansher Khan of Pakistan 17-15, 15-13, 15-11 in a thrilling display of shot-making as well as great retrieving. Dittmar, for his part, had despatched the previous World Champion, Ross Norman of New Zealand, in his semi-final match, 11-15, 15-13, 15-8, 15-5.

The Canadian entries in the 32 man draw found the competition rather stiff although Winnipeg's Gene Turk advanced to the second round by beating Rod George of Australia 15-12, 15-6, 15-8 before losing to another Aussie, Mark Robberds 15-9, 15-12, 15-10. George had been a last minute substitute for second seed Stuart Davenport who withdrew from the tournament after announcing his retirement at the advanced age of 25. The other Canadians had the misfortune of meeting an opponent ranked in the top 10 in the world: Sushane Soni dropped a 15-1, 15-5, 15-4 decision to the top seed, Ross Norman; Sabir Butt, still playing tentatively after his injury incurred in England, lost 15-2, 15-3, 15-6 to Qamar Zaman; Todd Binns played very well but succumbed to 7th seed Chris Robertson 15-10, 15-6, 15-12; and Canadian Champion Dale Styner was beaten 15-9, 15-4, 15-6 by Ross Thorne.

Other notable first round matches included Sweden's Anders Wahlstedt upsetting the World #10, Aussie Tristan Nancarrow; Zarak Jahan Khan surprising #7 ranked and 6th seeded Philip Kenyon of England; Mark Robberds, who had to qualify for a spot in the draw, beating #12 Ricki



CHRIS DITTMAR HAS REGAINED HIS CHAMPIONSHIP FORM, RECOVERING FROM A CAREER-THREATENING KNEE INJURY.

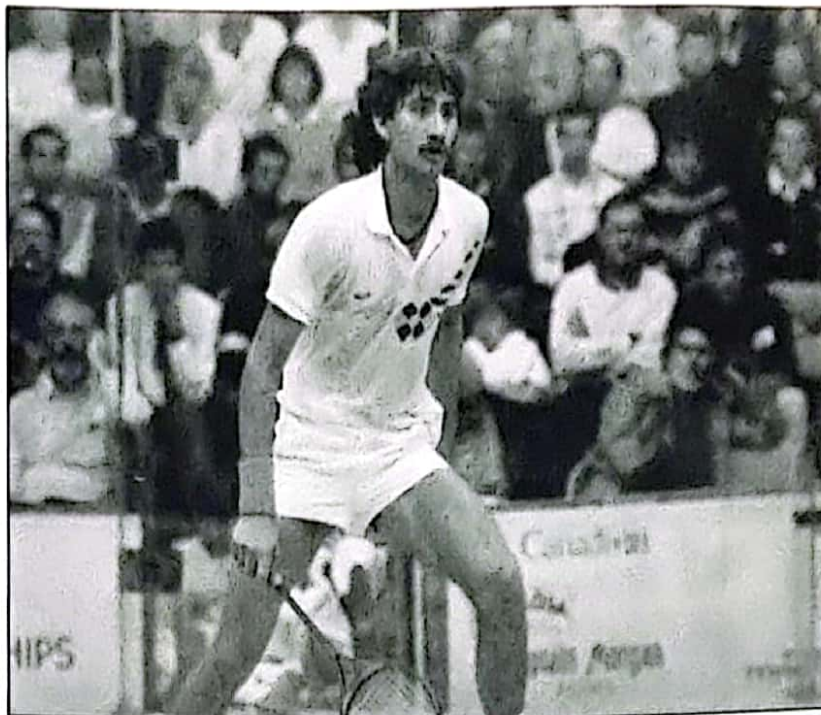
Hill from Australia and then Gene Turk before losing to Rodney Martin in the quarters; and ex-patriate Canadian Jamie Hickox defeating the 40 year old former World Champion Geoff Hunt in straight games.

The only seed to fall in the second round was Zaman who lost to the fast rising English player Neil Harvey 15-12, 11-15, 15-4, 15-7. However, 3rd seed Jansher Khan had a real scare being down two games and tied 14 all

the third before rallying to beat Brett Martin of Australia 12-15, 8-15, 17-15, 15-9, 15-12 in one of the most exciting matches of the whole week. The quarter finals were uneventful with only Jansher dropping so much as one game (to Zarak).

The semi-finals brought together some very interesting matchups. Ross Norman and Chris Dittmar are both very strong willed individuals, a trait which combined with their enormous talent provides a referee with a formidable challenge. The match produced some very long rallies and deft shot making, punctuated by the occasional outburst by one or other of the players. In the end, it was Dittmar's perseverance and the better ability to concentrate that won him the day. The other semi-final was highlighted by some spectacular shot-making by Rodney Martin, who sent Jansher down to his first loss in six months. Martin was able to catch Jansher with drops into the nick, almost as if it seemed, particularly on the backhand side. The young World Champion appeared tired, perhaps a result from a rather gruelling schedule coupled with a bit of a letdown after his recent win at the World Open and leading Pakistan (yes, Jahangir played at #2) to the World Team Championship. Martin, to his credit, seized the opportunity and simply outplayed JK II to earn his berth in the final.

The final was a contrast in styles. Martin picked up where he left off by playing some fabulous winners and Dittmar picked up where he left off engaging in some verbal jousting with the referee. Martin stayed just ahead of his compatriot to win the first game 15-12. At 6-5 Martin in the second game, Dittmar took exception to a call by the referee, argued vociferously, received a Code of Conduct warning, and proceeded to lose the next six rallies. However, at this point, he was able to regain his composure and with some very disciplined squash was able to tie the score at 12. With Dittmar ahead 16-14, Martin was awarded two consecutive strokes to pull even, and then won the game with a pretty backhand volley drop into the nick. The crowd sensed a three game Martin victory, but Dittmar would have no part of that. He gradually wore down his younger opponent retrieving practically everything and sending Martin deep to the back of the court at every opportunity in an attempt to neutralize the deadly drop shot. Eventually, after an hour and fifteen minutes of excellent squash, the new Drakkar Noir International Champion was Chris Dittmar.



WORLD CHAMPION, JANSHER KHAN, HAD AN UNSUCCESSFUL DEBUT IN CANADA.

It is the opinion of this writer that the rules under which this Championship was held are the best combination for this level of play. I repeat — for this level of play!! American scoring, American (17 inch) tin, and one serve with no cut line produced a much more exciting and dynamic brand of squash.

Congratulations to John Beddington, Howard Seto, Murray Christison and the rest of the tournament organizing committee for this innovation and for the first class treatment accorded players, referees, press, and spectators alike. We all eagerly await the 1988 Drakkar Noir International. ●

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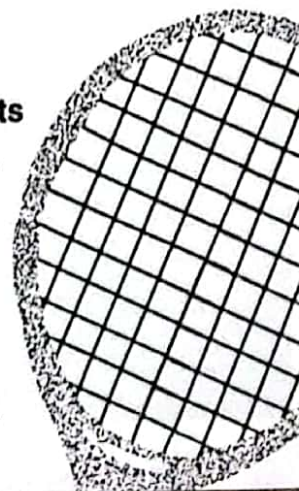
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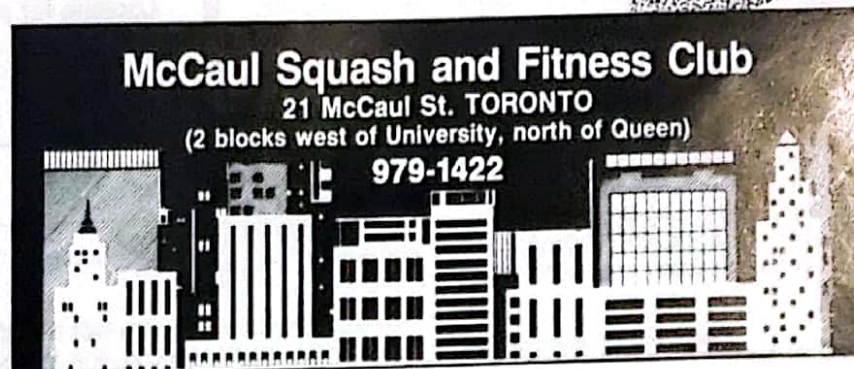


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THE MEETING OF NORTH AND SOUTH IN PARRY SOUND

BY BOB CLARK

When a new club holds their first tournament there will always be a few jitters and questions to be asked. Who do you invite? Will anyone come? Are we prepared? Who has the trophy?

The first Parry Sound Open Squash Tournament held at the Jolly Roger Motel proved to be an appropriate venue for local players as well as for players from the North and the South of Ontario. Thirteen players from around Ontario gathered at the "Jolly" on November 6, 7 & 8th along with the club members. Event Co-Ordinator Scott Copland found help always available from seasoned players and coaches like Ken O'Jeer from Sault Ste. Marie.

Three strong Northerners tried for the win against three Southern Boys in the Men's A Division but when it came down to the finals, it was Gary Helmkey of Barrie taking the win from Bill Guest of Mississauga in a very close match: 1-9, 9-6, 7-9, 9-3, 10-9.

Men's B ended up as a battle between the North and the South with Bob Marunchak of Sudbury downing Wayne Fiset of Bradford 9-0, 6-9, 10-9 and 9-3.

Two Parry Sounders fought it out in the final for the Men's C competition defeating other club members as well as players from Sault Ste. Marie and Toronto. Mike Visontin triumphed over Bob Hughes 6-9, 10-9, 9-2 and 9-4.

Men's Novice was a Round Robin competition giving Ken Zayette of Sudbury the nod over four other players which included a real upcoming Junior player in Nathan Drew.

Players from Ottawa, Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury squared off on the Court in the Women's Open. Cathy Wigmore of the Soo came out the winner over Colleen Drew of Sudbury 9-0, 9-0 and 9-1.

The Women's Novice division found club competition very stiff. Diane Hatfield of Parry Sound defeated Jo-Anne Demmick, also of Parry Sound, 9-2, 9-1, and 9-7.



GARY HELMKAY (CENTRE) RECEIVES AWARDS FROM EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR SCOTT COPLAND AND CLUB OWNER, INGRID MULLER.

Thanks to the assistance of Carling O'Keefe, McGuinness and the hospitable hosts at the Jolly Roger Motel, the First Annual Parry Sound Open was a success. Many new players filled the gallery along with competitors. And after the competition what better way to soothe those aching

muscles but in the Jacuzzi.

As for the Jolly Roger Squash Club, members are always willing to be the meeting ground for a battle between Northern and Southern Ontario, after all, it means good squash and good friends will meet on the court. ●

Squash is my life!
by BROWNING

WOMEN AND SQUASH

Perspective From The Locker Room

BY GEORGE SPELVIN

Let's go back to the very early days of squash was almost totally a man's game in pre-historic times. Using the game in pre-historic times. Using the hambone of a taradactyl, men only would pound a ball against the wall of the cave screaming "Let" just in time to prevent being impaled on a stalagmite.

Not much changed until the late 1800's when women were first invited to "squash and scones" at London's famous Tin Palace. Needless to say, clad in hooped skirts and whalebone bustles they were less than agile and were no match for the men of the day.

Squash and the white man were virtually synonymous with the settling

of America. Loading their racquets and gear onto covered wagons, they made their way to the health spas of California. Occasionally Indian raids cut into their court time but they bravely persevered.

Women played a vital role once the game was established on this side of the ocean, though initially only in the towel room. The first ever game between a man and a woman was actually played in Canada at Kingston's Lower Canada Squash and Canasta club. The balcony was filled with spectators, many of them peering down the rather revealing bodice of the player of the fair sex, Lady Emily Adidas. History was

made that day Lady Emily demanded and won an interference judgment when she was purposely tripped by her opponent's spaniel.

Today, perfume wafts through the change room, high heels and lingerie fill the lockers. And that's often in the men's locker room — the women that play the game are not that frivolous. Out on the courts the action is hard fought. Women have perfected new shots — the "distract-and-drop" is the combination of a seductive smile followed by a quick sinker. The "luscious lob" calls for the extension of a shapely limb near the T while the ball falls ignored into the back corner.

Playing squash is an important part of the dating process in 1988. Often you'll hear therapists on the radio talking about squash without guilt or more recently "safe squash". For thousands of male and female players the game has become a new and important way to work up a sweat.

But what's next? Pastel courts for women? Co-ed locker rooms? Squash to disco music? The future of squash and the women who play the game are forever intertwined. Show me a man who doesn't welcome women to the game and I'll show you a guy who's been holding his racquet too long. ●

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STYNER AND HENDERSON WIN INAUGURAL EVENT

BY PIERRE PRINTEMPS



Martini Squash Challenge winners hold their unique cut-glass trophies at the Carlson Club in Etobicoke. Women's winner Linda Henderson of The Club in Oakville and Brad Styner of Carlson Court (right) are seen with Peter Mielzynski, representing Martini & Rossi in Canada. Sixteen southern Ontario clubs were represented at the 3-day squash event.

In the first annual Martini Squash Challenge held at Carlson Court, Etobicoke, Brad Styner, 24, formerly of Calgary, defeated Wayne Weatherhead of Mayfair Parkway 3-2. Women's winner, Linda Henderson of The Club, Oakville, won over Lynn Begg of Partners West, Woodbridge.

The three days of events amongst 16 Southern Ontario clubs was directed by Norm Platt, assisted by Walter Perchal of Wizard Sports, co-sponsors. Winner Styner said "I have been very impressed with the excellence of the competition in the Challenge and with the precision and timing of events. The organization of event director Norm Platt has been superior in every way". Clubs were represented from Belleville, Kingston, Peterborough, Toronto area, Burlington, St. Catharines and London.

Women's winner Linda Henderson of The Club, Oakville stated, "The calibre of competition was very good and I'm looking forward to the day when The Club can hold this event on our courts". Henderson mentioned how pleased the members of her club were with the hospitality extended by Martini & Rossi.

The Martini Challenge awards for club displays have been created by artists engraving men and women squash players in action on bottle-green cut-glass, mounted in walnut bases. Both winners received awards as well as Martini umbrellas, glasses, large bottles of Martini Asti Spumante and Wizard racquets. Every participant in the Challenge received a product sample, information and a sports shirt from Martini.

A highlight of the Challenge was an exhibition game between Mayfair

Lakeshore pro Barbara Diggins, top world-ranked player and Norm Platt, event director and pro at Applewood squash club, Mississauga. The spectator gallery was most impressed by these top players in action. Another highlight was the Friday roast beef dinner which all agreed was a tribute to the Carlson Court management and chef.

A special reception was held Saturday at the nearby Carleton Inn and a Sunday brunch at the Carlson Court. Peter Mielzynski, representing

Squash is my life!
by BROWN



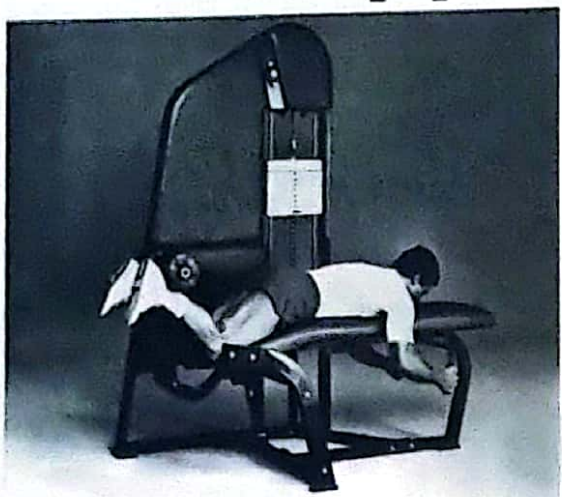
BRAD STYNER (LEFT) WENT THE DISTANCE WITH WAYNE WEATHERHEAD IN MEN'S FINAL.

Martini & Rossi said "We are most pleased to sponsor this excellent amateur sport event and eagerly invite all clubs in Ontario to join us for next year's event". He continued, "Martini sponsors sports events in Europe such as car racing, power boat races and car rallies. We expect to expand our sports interests in Canada such as the Martini Sailing Challenge next June at the Boulevard Club". Mielzynski noted, "the objective of our squash sponsorship is to foster the sport and broaden the base of competition by providing incentives and opportunities for amateur players to compete in a pro environment." ●

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NATIONAL RANKINGS

WOMEN

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
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| 2. Gail Pimm | Toronto |
| 3. Joyce Maycock | Vancouver |
| 4. Amanda Paton | Edmonton |
| 5. Carla Jensen | Regina |
| 6. Kelsey Lundmark | Calgary |
| 7. Lori Coleman | Ajax |
| 8. Wendy Wontner | Toronto |
| 9. Cathy Coverton | Toronto |
| 10. Jennifer Birch-Jones | Victoria |
| 11. Shelley Harvey | Ottawa |
| 12. Lynne Noel | Ottawa |
| 13. Nancy Stern | Nanaimo |
| 14. Bridgett Hemstead | Kelowna |
| 15. Heather Lindsay | Toronto |
| 16. Ruth Castellino | Toronto |
| 17. Debbie Smith | Vancouver |
| 18. Dierdre Smith | Vancouver |
| 19. Sylvie Faulkner | Ottawa |
| 20. Sue Lawton | Vancouver |

MEN

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. Dale Styner | Calgary |
| 2. Sabir Butt | Toronto |
| 3. John Fleury | St. Catharines |
| 4. Gene Turk | Winnipeg |
| 5. Sushane Soni | Winnipeg |
| 6. Trevor Thom | Victoria |
| 7. Max Weithers | Toronto |
| 8. Mike Way | Toronto |
| 9. Joe Besso | Montreal |
| 10. Steve Lawton | Vancouver |
| 11. Jeff Sneyd | Ottawa |
| 12. Bill Turk | Calgary |
| 13. Darren Thomson | Victoria |
| 14. Jim Geddes | Vancouver |
| 15. Alex Allison | Vancouver |
| 16. Mark Heaney | Vancouver |
| 17. Larry Armstrong | Vancouver |
| 18. Andrew Lynn | Vancouver |
| 19. Kevin Johnson | Vancouver |
| 20. Winston Cabell | Victoria |

DOUBLES ACTIVITY REVIEW AND PREVIEW

The doubles season brings with it a combination of keen competition and fellowship. Add to this traditionally the best parties in squash and you can understand why doubles squash has such a loyal following.

The mixed doubles game is growing rapidly and there have already been three events played on the ever growing circuit. The season began with the annual Granite Mixed (October 19-23), an invitation to which is very much sought after. The reunited team of Victor Harding and Barbara Savage have returned to the mixed scene in championship form. They were not without opposition however, needing a fifth game to overcome the challenge from Alan Grant and a much-

improved Lolly Gillen. Cass Quinn and Margaret Taylor were consolation winners. The next stop on the mixed tour was the annual Hallowe'en Mixed at London Squash Club. The husband and wife team of Lindsay and Anne Smith needed a fifth game to defeat the team of Cass Quinn and Jan Atkinson. Quinn and Atkinson surprised themselves with a semi-final victory over the London duo of Jim Shaw and Sandra Penney, while the Smiths defeated Don Benson and Margaret Taylor in the other semi. The first half of the mixed season wound up with the Ontario Mixed played at the Hamilton Squash and Fitness Club, December 4-6. Twenty-two teams began the event which was filled with many exciting

matches. Victor Harding and Barbara Savage lived up to their top seeding meeting the Hamilton team of Karen Jerome and Mike Guyatt. Jerome and Guyatt ousted Alan Grant and Lolly Gillen in the semis with Grant and Gillen placing third over Paul Frost and Jane Mitchell. John Nelles and Jan Atkinson overcame a two game deficit to win the consolation over Tom Watts and Leah Anne Wright.

The men's doubles scene got underway at the Kitchener-Waterloo Racquet Club Invitational (October 23 and 24). The open and veterans draws were both small in numbers but neither lacked in quality. Both finals were five game marathons with Alan Grant and Taylor Fawcett overcoming the team of John Boynton and Jamie Bentley. In the veterans draw, Cass Quinn and Gary Kritz defeated Don Hoffman and David Hetherington.

The next stop on the doubles tour was the annual George Armstrong Memorial Doubles (Nov. 6-8) in Rochester. American teams captured both the veterans and seniors events with the duo of Don Leggat and John Fuller scoring Canada's best performance as finalists in the senior event losing to the Philadelphia team of



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Fred Bracher and Charles Stehle. Boston's Tom Poor teamed up with Sandy Martin of Baltimore to win the veteran's event.

The Hamilton Thistle Club is alive and well and with it the annual Hamilton Thistle Invitational. This multi-event tournament offers top calibre competition and is highlighted by a superb Saturday evening dinner/dance. Sunday saw the crowning of champions in open and veterans doubles events. Steve Hisey and Taylor Fawcett were straight game winners over Scott Leggat and Jamie Bentley. The partnership of Andy Pastor and Peter Hall has been reactivated after Pastor missed most of last season with a back injury. The reunion was highly successful on the team's first outing, with Pastor and

Hall claiming the veterans title in three games over Bob French and Henry Board.

The weekend of November 20th witnessed the inaugural Smith Chapman Memorial Doubles hosted by the Montreal Badminton and Squash Club in grand Montreal fashion. Over fifty teams gathered from Canada and the United States to celebrate the life of a great contributor to squash. Open, veterans, seniors and masters events were played between the multitude of social events typical of Montreal Badminton and Squash Club tournaments. Eventual winners were Bart Sambrook and Greg Desaulniers (Open), Andy Pastor and Peter Hall (Veterans), Kevin Parker and Ritchie Bell (Seniors) and Darwin Kingsley and Alfie Hunter (Masters). The Smith

Chapman will be an annual event not to be missed by any doubles player.

The first half of the men's doubles season finished up with two concurrent events. The always popular Buffalo Doubles and the Xerox Cambridge Club Doubles.

Canadian teams won both the open and veterans draws in Buffalo. John Boynton and Steve Hisey triumphed over the brother team of Peter and David Hetherington. Hamilton's Andy Mulzer and Rick Snider won over the Buffalo team of Nick Hopkins and Jim Wadsworth. The Xerox Cambridge Club Doubles event showcases the top professional teams in a unique competition where there is a lot more than a title on the line. Todd Binns and Tom Page needed four games to defeat Alan Grant and Jamie Bentley.

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UPCOMING DOUBLES EVENTS:

Date: January 29
Event: Xerox Canadian Open Doubles
Location: Fitness Institute

Date: February 5
Event: Ontario Mens "C" Doubles
Location: Kitchener-Waterloo Racquet Club

Date: February 12
Event: Hamilton Invitational Mixed (tentative)
Location: Hamilton Squash & Fitness Club

Date: February 12
Event: Xerox B.C. Doubles
Location: Vancouver

Date: February 19
Event: Thistle Women's Doubles
Location: Hamilton Thistle Club

Date: February 19
Event: Lapham Cup-Grant Trophy
Location: St. Paul, Minnesota

Date: February 26
Event: Ontario Men's Doubles (40+, 50+, 60+)
Location: Toronto Racquets Club

Date: March 4
Event: Ontario Open Doubles
Location: Hamilton Thistle Club

Date: March 10
Event: Xerox Canadian National Doubles
Location: Badminton & Racquet Club

Date: March 25
Event: U.S.S.R.A. Men's National Doubles
Location: Pittsburgh, Pa. ●

ANNUAL SQUASH FESTIVAL IN SARNIA

BY PAM MUNDY

For the ninth year in a row, local squash players and players from Toronto, Chatham, Windsor, Stratford, London and Guelph gathered at #1 Nautilus for the annual Southwestern Ontario Tournament. Thanks to the continued support of Ernie Charette of Molson Breweries and Alan Sklar of Black Knight, not one of the one hundred and six players was disappointed at the calibre of play that was exhibited this weekend.

This was clearly evident by the fact that there were thirty-one players in the Men's "A" draw alone. After fifteen first round matches, eight second round matches and four third round matches, and first seed, Craig Hall of London and the number two seed, Jan Bissonnette of the host club had scored decisive victories over several opponents. In the semi-final Craig defeated Pete Curran of Toronto 3-2 and Jan defeated Martin Langdale of London 3-0. This set the stage for a very exciting final between the top two seeds. The match took eighty minutes with Jan Bissonnette scoring a 3 games to 2 defeat over Craig. Craig won the first with a close 9-7 score but Jan came back strong winning the next two 9-1 and 9-4. In the fourth game, Jan had match ball three times but could not put Craig away and lost it 10-8. In the fifth, Jan was down 6-1 but much to the delight of the hometown crowd won 9-6. In the Men's "A" consolation Brian Donnelly (#1 Nautilus) needed four games to defeat club mate Steve Gelinas. The Men's "A" plate was won by Mike Blythe (Toronto) in straight games over Mike Haddon (#1 Nautilus).

Equally competitive was the Open "B" draw which had twenty-five entries. The final was played between Brian Wilkins and Mickey Slood, both of the host club. The eventual winner was Brian Wilkins by a score of 3-1. Third place went to Doug Cairns (#1 Nautilus players) with John Charteris defeating Steve Brule 3-0 in the consolation and George Bociurko over Tom Neilson 3-0 in the plate.



TOURNAMENT ORGANIZER DENNIS ENSOM IS FLANKED BY CHAMPIONS CHRIS HOOD (LEFT) AND JAN BISSONNETTE.

The Men's "C" was the only final in which #1 Nautilus was not represented. It was Frank Boussen (Guleph) over

Gary Labadie (Chatham) in five games. The "C" consolation was won by Joel Clark (Sarnia) in a close 3-2

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By Geoffrey Hunt 7 Time World and 8 Time British Open Champion

victory over Mike Munday (#1 Nautilus). Erral Bissonnette finished third with a 3-1 victory over Paul Hickey, both of #1 Nautilus. A round robin was played for those who were preliminary round losers and the final standings were Pat McGill (1st), George Vera (2nd) and Rob Sayers (3rd). All were from #1 Nautilus.

The results of the Men's "D" round robin were (in order of finish): Ron Henry (London), Don Eadie (#1 Nautilus), Don Ricciuto (#1 Nautilus) and Ken Kennedy (#1 Nautilus).

The women's draws saw a total of twenty-six participants. In the Women's "A" draw there were seven top notch players and as a result many exciting matches. Chris Hood scored a decisive first place victory without losing one game. Patti Hogan (#1 Nautilus) finished second, Heather McLean (London) third, Carolyn Green (London) fourth, Lise Hickey (#1 Nautilus) fifth, Chris Davies (Windsor) sixth and Cathy Green (London) seventh.

By far, the greatest number of women entrants were in the "B" draw. There were fourteen players altogether. Debbie McKinnon (London) scored a 3-0 victory over Ruth Symington (#1 Nautilus). Monica Laing (Windsor)

was third and Pam Munday (#1 Nautilus) was fourth. In the "B" plate it was Robin James first, Julie Foley second, Rebecca Brydges third and Cindy St. George fourth. All players were from #1 Nautilus. The Women's "B" consolation winner was Meghan Davis who defeated Jeni McAllister in three games. Both players were from the host club.

The Women's "C/D" finals were also all #1 Nautilus finals. In the final, Sue Osso scored a 3-0 victory over Colleen Martell while in the consolation, it was Kay Hickey over Ina McCune 3-1.

As can be seen from the results, the hometown crowd had reason to celebrate. Equally important to note was the fact that seventy-seven out of a hundred and six players played in the "A" and "B" draws. The calibre of squash is truly improving and the spectators are the winners. Some of us go away feeling satisfied while others feel frustrated, but we are all aware that if this year is any example, then next year will be even better. Thanks to all those who participated by playing and refereeing with special thanks to Dennis Ensom who makes everything run so smoothly. ●

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Dennis Goodfellow

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WESTERN REGION GRAND PRIX CIRCUIT

BY LARRY CHRISTIANSON

On the weekend of December 4-6, Northfield-Doon Racquet Club hosted the first of three venues on the Black Knight Grand Prix Circuit. This event proved very successful last season and if this venue is any indication the 87-88 series will prove even more successful.

Some changes in format were made this year; last year saw flights in Men's A, B, & C and a ladies open; this year Men's A, B, C & D, were held with ladies playing in the Men's draw. Although a few ladies did enter both years I feel that next year we will definitely be adding a full flight in the ladies. Our main drawback has been limited court availability at some of the host clubs.

The format of the series which was initiated by the Western Region Executive Committee in conjunction with Black Knight, Carling O'Keefe and Merco consists of three separate tournaments which are held in different locations within the Western Region throughout the season with their own prize packages (racquets, bags & accessories) with finalists, semi finalists, and consolation winners accumulating points at each venue. The top three point leaders in each division over the series then receive generous cash certificates which can be used to purchase Black Knight products.

This format has been very successful in developing regional competition as

well as promoting the sponsors' products. I might suggest that other regions try to set up a similar event.

Excellent competition in all four divisions afforded first class entertainment for the 70 competitors and spectators as well. Winners of the various events were; D cons: Martin Novis (Brantford) 3-1 over Dave Blott (Northfield); D main: Carl Weaver (Hamilton) 3-0 over Neil Main (Northfield-Doon); C cons: Paul Behnke (Hamilton) 3-1 over Brad Baker (Northfield); C main: Dan Murawsky (Doon) 3-0 over Paul Stefanato (Sudbury Y); B cons: Dave Ancill (Brantford) 3-0 over Ted McLean (Val); B main: Frank Brillinger (Hamilton Sq.) 3-0 over Hazen Gilks (Doon); A cons: Ed Crymble (U of Wat.) 3-1 over Vince Martino (Brantford); A main: Danny Marsh (Northfield) 3-2 over Mike Hirschmann (Doon).

With the success of this tournament at Doon, as well as the Ontario Closed Championships in October and a successful First Annual Hallowe'en Tournament, we look forward to hosting the Western Region Closed Championships March 25-27 at the two Northfield Clubs with a projected entry of 160 players. ●

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The Country Squire's many year round recreational facilities are popular with members, vacationers and business travellers alike. Aside from the indoor pool, sauna, hot tubs, global gym and fitness centre, the Health and Squash Club is equipped with two international squash courts. Programs at the club include swimming lessons, aerobics classes, creative daycare and programs for the handicapped. Plans are in the final stages for a tanning unit and therapeutic massage facilities. These, combined with existing seasonal facilities (outdoor pool, tennis and basketball courts in summer and cross-country ski and snowmobile trails and outdoor skating facilities in winter) are just one more reason why the Country Squire Health and Squash Club Resort is yours to discover!

Your day will be complete after dinner at our Dicken's Eatery and Beef House, specializing in breakfast and prime rib buffets. If a light snack or cocktail are more your style, in the summer relax on the Patio Bar or share in the gaiety in Fagin's Pub, both featuring live entertainment.

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memberships, the Country Squire hosts an annual "Dust-Me-Off" tournament as well as their "Challenge-a-Pro" weekend. The Christmas spirit is shared by all at the annual squash tournament and toy drive, as people unite for this worthwhile cause. Christmas makes one think of kids and the Country Squire Health and Squash Club Resort is thinking of them too. With a games room fully equipped with billiards, shuffleboard, table tennis and darts, the most active child will indeed

stay active.

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GLENDON MEN'S "C" WON BY TONY FROST

BY AARON RODRIGUES



(LEFT TO RIGHT) JOHN MOCHA, CHAMPION TONY FROST AND FINALIST DAVID GOODMAN.

Glendon's Squash Club Men's "C" Tournament, November 20th - 22nd, proved to be an overall success. The tournament had attracted 32 players from all over the Toronto and District area.

As the tournament play continued into the late stages of the draw, it certainly provided spectators with some of the most entertaining squash of the weekend. Congratulations to our new champion Tony Frost from the Toronto Racquets Club, as he overcame his opponent, David Goodman

from the Duffinch Club in a hard fought 3 to 1 victory.

In the consolation final, John Mocha from the Toronto Argonaut Rowing Club defeated his opponent, Fred Flaxman of the Skyline Club, 3 to 1.

Many thanks to all the players and spectators throughout the weekend. Also a special thanks to Amstel Breweries (Colin Anderson) for donating prizes to our winners. We hope to see you all next year. ●

Lori Coleman Captures Win in Women's Flight Event

BY WENDY WONTNER

The Toronto & District Women's Flight Tournament (November 5-7) held at Mayfair Parkway was an absolute success in all respects. Fifty-five participants got together to enjoy a multitude of squash matches (minimum of three) and good home cooked food throughout the weekend.

The flight format proved to be exciting to all levels of play, as each person fed in over and over again into lower draws. Those who were able to keep up, played two rounds Friday, as many as four rounds on Saturday and two more on Sunday. Poor Shirley Murphy (a Parkway "C" player), managed to play four matches on Saturday, all of which went to five games! Shirley still managed to come out and cheer the finals of all the events on Sunday afternoon as well as sample home made cookies and muffins.

Congratulations to the following winners and runners up who managed to find the energy to play their final in the "D", Nancy Sarman defeated Pat Volza 3-0. Leslie Freeman won the "B" by defeating Holly Bick. J. Smith needed four games to win the "B" off Tessa Gibson. In the "A" draw, Lori Coleman defeated T. Castellino in a match closer than a 0 result would indicate. It was nice to see some familiar squash players returning for a bit of revenge now that they've had their babies. Welcome back to Diana Dainty and Ch. Kogon.

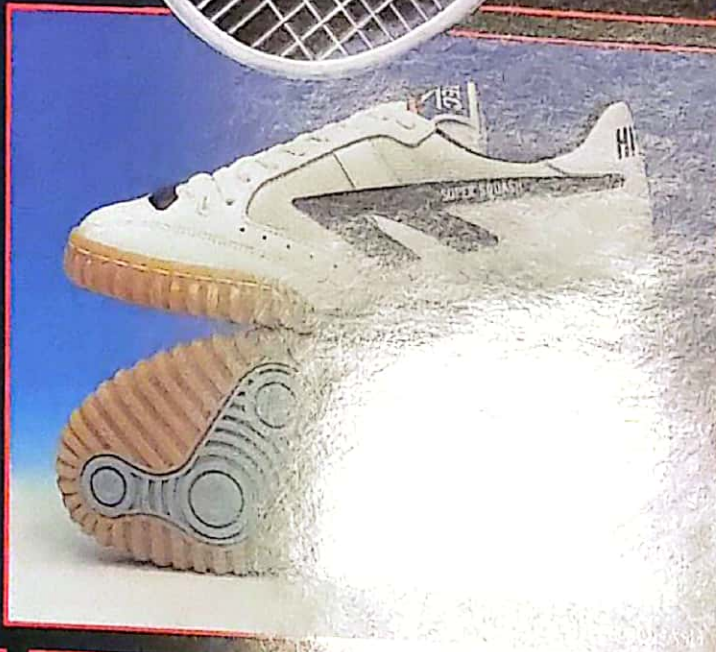
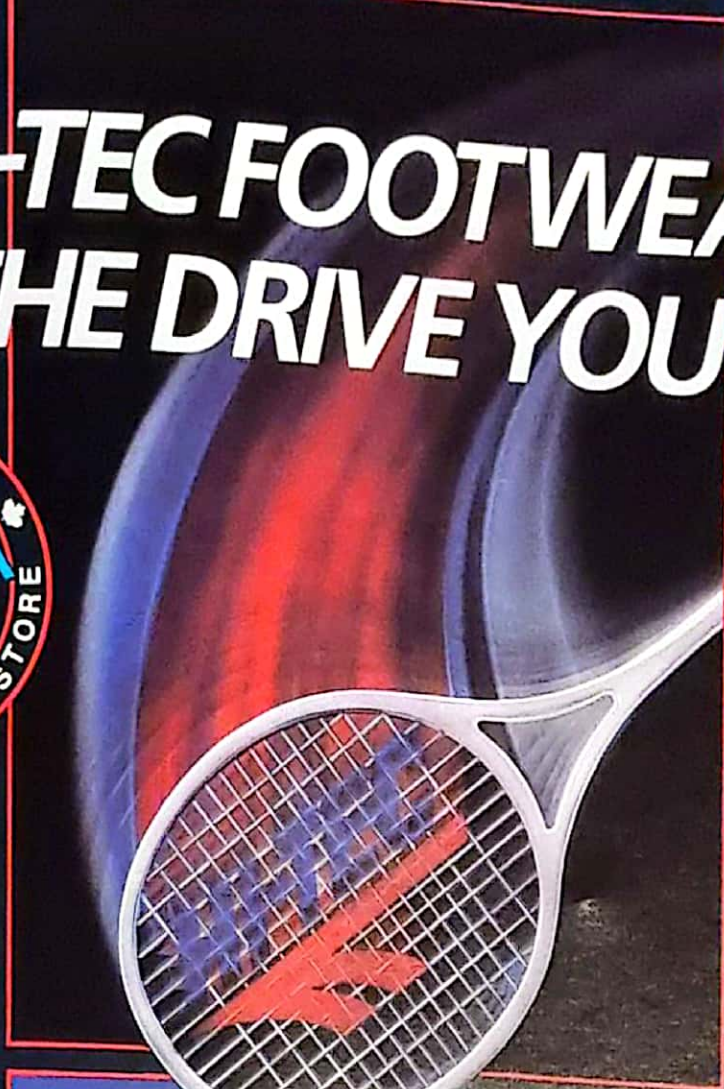
Many thanks for all of the support from our sponsors, Seagrams, Kennex, Sparling Designs, Shop, Drugmart, Pat & Mario's and P. Canada. A special thanks to the "parental units" and to Lori Coleman for all of their help throughout the weekend, from draw sheets to cookie dough! We look forward to next year's tournament. ●

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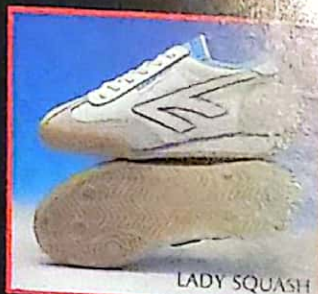
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