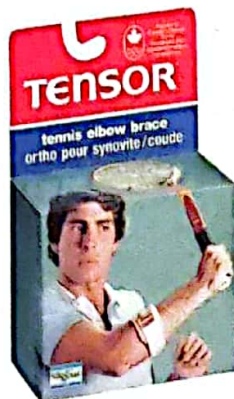


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# SQUASH

L I F E



## CONTENTS

4

### EDITORIAL

*Corporate Sector Missing Marketing Opportunities*

6

### FEATURE

*Jack Daniels Gives Pro Squash A Boost*

8

### INTERNATIONAL SCENE

*The World At Our Doorstep*

10

### PRO'S CORNER

*Putting The Pressure On Keeps The Pressure Off*

13

### CLUB FOCUS

*Valley East... A New Jewel In Our Crown.*

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# THE BUCK\$ STOP HERE North Gets Cold Shoulder

Much has been made of Toronto being hailed as the squash capital of North America. She comes by her title honestly and clearly outdistances her closest rival, New York, in terms of clubs. Toronto boasts nearly 130 facilities which represents approximately 30 per cent of the total nationwide.

It is true also that Toronto has been one of the beneficiaries of the growth surge in squash over the past four years. There have been some 20 new facilities built during that time period, with a number of others either on the drawing board or in the construction stage. These new clubs of course, translate into thousands of new players and club members. Many of the clubs in the city have facilities equal to or better than those found in any country in the world. Consequently, Toronto continues to attract major international squash events. This year, the prestigious Xerox Canadian Championships have been added to an already impressive list of annual events including the Fleischmann's, the Boots and the Mennen Cup. Many of the brightest stars on the world circuit will be making an appearance in Toronto in 1985.

Yes, Toronto is truly blessed. But with all this manna from heaven, many seem to have lost sight of the fact that this city is not the only game in town. Frankly, Toronto has become so inured by tournaments and luminaries that the prevailing attitude of many players is one of apathy.

Let us not forget that the game of squash is alive and well and living outside Metropolitan Toronto - the recent growth has not been confined solely to the area bounded by Ajax and Oakville. Squash is thriving in cities such as Windsor, London, Belleville, Kingston and Ottawa, to name just a few. Perhaps no where is

the interest and enthusiasm keener or the growth more pronounced than in the north, and yet these clubs and players are penalized by two factors. The first is strictly geographical. The sheer size and breadth of Ontario severely hampers travel within and to the north. Consequently, few people from Toronto participate in events in Sudbury or Sault Ste. Marie and similarly, few people from these cities travel south seeking competition.

Players in northern cities are both isolated and insulated from the world of squash outside their own circle. This is most unfortunate, as it retards not so much growth in terms of players, but certainly growth in terms of calibre. The discrepancy in play between north and south is quite marked and may never improve appreciably as long as northern players are denied the opportunity of both stronger competition and access to training and development programmes.

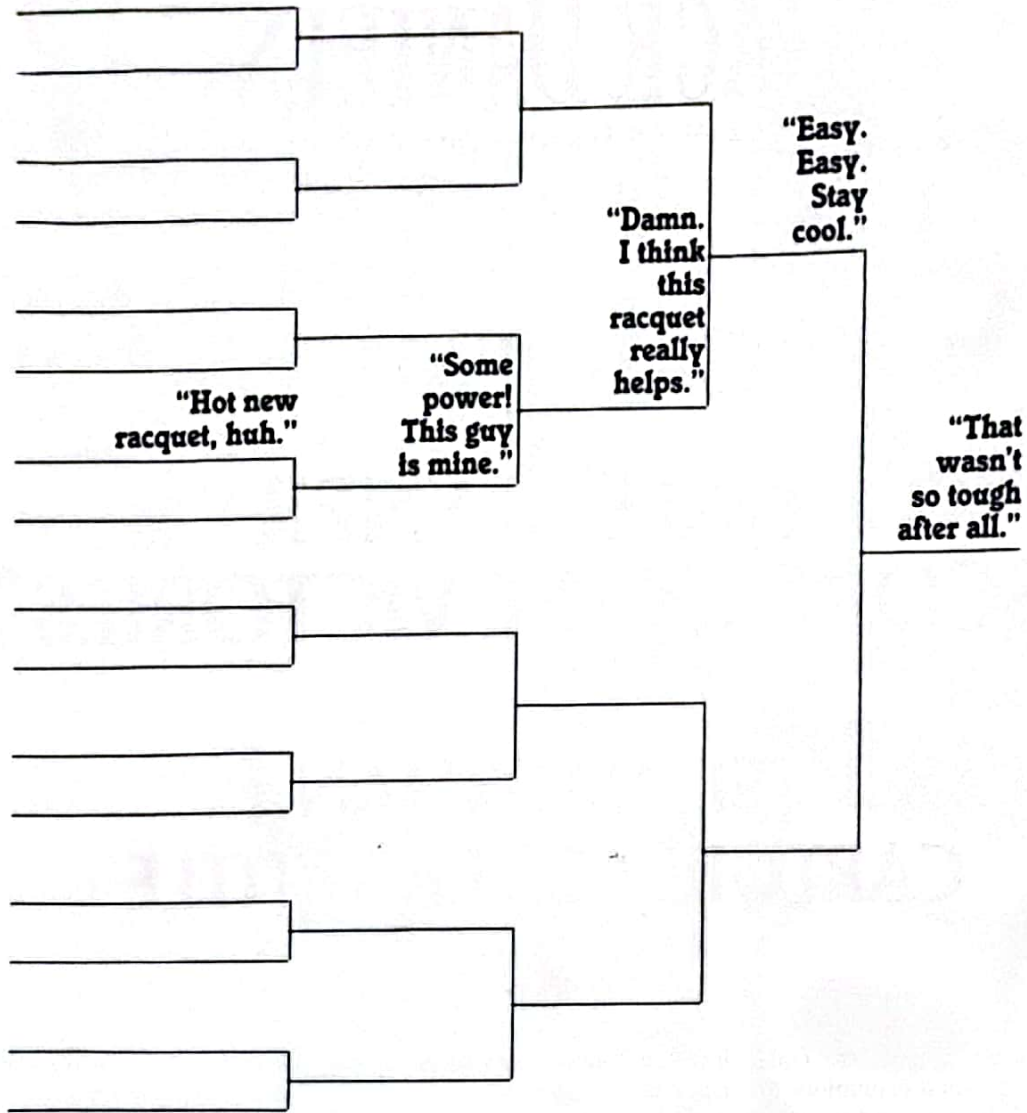
The psychological factor undermines the north time and time again. We Canadians visibly bristle whenever Americans refer to us as the land of Mounties and snowshoes, and yet southern Ontarians often demonstrate the same misconceptions about those who live in the north. Many perceive the north as a series of small mining and logging towns with nothing better to do on a Saturday night except drink beer. How naive and ignorant can we be? The larger cities have grown over the past few years into cosmopolitan centres with an emphasis on profiling the unique character and culture of the north. The squash clubs in these cities are modern in design and rival many Toronto clubs in accommodating burgeoning numbers of squash players.

The north has managed to develop pretty much on its own, but

its progress could be greatly accelerated if many would recognize its potential, particularly in terms of being a consumer market. One programme, designed specifically to assist northern clubs in creating awareness of the game within their own centres, was turned down by the corporate sector simply because the clubs weren't located in Toronto! The programme, comprising a ten-city, 17-club series of clinics and lessons, would be an excellent vehicle for a sponsor to access a population of approximately 2,500,000 consumers. Media coverage will be extensive because individual club events will not be competing with high profile sporting events which would happen in Toronto.

Instead, it is the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation that will assist in underwriting the costs of the programme - the one sector sport administrators are often loathe to tap because of the resulting red tape. It is, however, the only sector that has recognized that no sport can grow and thrive when its audience and appeal is limited to one centre. The development of squash in regions outside the Toronto area is vital to the continued health and prosperity of the game.

Perhaps one day the advertising archons and corporate stars will take off their blinders and acknowledge that the world of squash does not revolve totally around Toronto. The growth of the game in this city will one day reach a saturation point and when that happens, new markets outside the Metropolitan Toronto area will have to be developed and tapped. Let us hope the people of the north are forgiving in nature and will not remember the 'slings and arrows of outrageous fortune' of the past. ●



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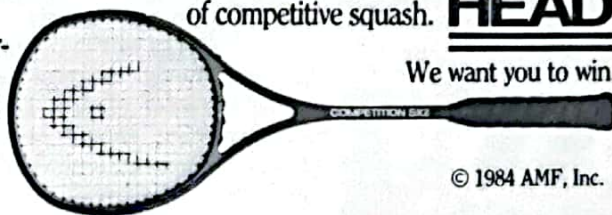
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# JACK DANIEL'S

CANADIAN PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

## GAIL PIMM AND DALE STYNER SCORE UPSET VICTORIES

## SHARIF KHAN CAPTURES OVER 35 TITLE

BY JAN ATKINSON

Sharif Khan, Gail Pimm and Dale Styner were crowned champions at the Jack Daniel's Canadian Professional Squash Championships. The event was played at the Valhalla Squash Club, December 6th through 9th. The \$20,000 total prize money predictably attracted a large, quality draw but few would have predicted the final results.

Odds were good that the men's open final would include top seed and defending champion Roy Ollier. Roy secured his place in the final with straight game victories over Rick Bigelow, Gordon Anderson, Max Weithers and John MacRury. The bottom half of the draw wasn't as cut and dried, however. Gary Waite was hoping to meet Ollier in the final. Roy is the only top Canadian pro that this Sarnia teenager has yet to overcome. To get to the final Gary would have to first reach the semi-finals and then repeat his stunning victory recently scored over Dale Styner. Gary upended Dale in four games two weeks earlier

in the men's provincial team championships.

Gary advanced through the draw at the expense of Sajjad Vine, Bill Turk and Steve Lawton, while Dale Styner dispatched Carl Hopkins, Mike Way and Gene Turk. The stage was now set for a rematch between the Canadian Junior Champion and the Canadian Open Champion. As intent as Gary Waite was on repeating his earlier win over Dale, Mr. Styner was even more so in avenging the loss. The capacity crowd was thrilled and fascinated by the talent exhibited by these two young men. The match appeared very even at the early stages but it seemed that the longer the match lasted, the better Dale Styner played. Dale was returning what should have been outright winners and this finally proved to be Gary's breaking point, as Dale won the fifth game without the loss of a point.

Dale Styner now readjusted his sights for the final against Roy Ollier. In the past twelve months

these two players had met only twice, with each winning one match. Dale held the more recent victory in his win over Roy last February in Brockville. Was Roy as intent on reversing the result as Dale was in continuing the trend? As fast as Dale was in his Saturday semi-final, he appeared even more so in the Sunday final. Dale's sheer speed and retrieving ability totally bewildered Roy, who produced a number of unforced errors. Dale finished the match in three games with scores of 9-6, 9-2 and 9-2.

The women's open produced the season's most stunning results to date. Vancouver's Joyce Maycock was seeded number one, with Toronto's Jo Ann Burdett and Ann Thompson at two and three. Although Ann Thompson came very close to defeating Maycock in one semi-final, the end result was in Jo Ann's favour. The real story, however, was being written by the tournament's fourth seed, Gail

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



DALE STYNER OVERTHROWS DEFENDING CHAMPION, ROY OLLIER.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1985

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SQUASH LIFE

# TORONTO REFLECTS THE MANY FACES OF SQUASH

BY IAN C. STEWART

As 1985 begins, one has a tendency to look back and view the past year in retrospect. It was a most interesting time for me as Chairman of the I.S.R.F. October, in particular, was a month for touching a lot of bases.

The month began in Edinburgh for the Annual General Meeting of the Federation. What a wonderful city and country in which to hold a squash get-together of any kind. The meetings not only had the largest attendance ever, but were also held in an atmosphere of goodwill and co-operation. From Scotland, I moved on to Egypt and in 90° heat, visited the facilities for the 1985 world and team championships.

Squash has been played for a long time in Egypt, and they are extremely proud of what they have contributed to the game. They point with considerable pride at their old facilities like the Gezira Club and their new national squash centre which will hopefully be completed in time for the 1985 championships.

**There is an appearance of freshness to everything associated with Squash.**

At the end of the month, I found myself back in Toronto and sitting in the gallery of the Fitness Institute watching their Classic Doubles - a women's and men's team doubles event between Canada and the United States. In that relatively short period of time, I had really seen squash and squash facilities



IAN C. STEWART

that ranged from the sublime to the ridiculous. I came to the conclusion that as far as squash is concerned, we in North America and particularly in Toronto, are probably the luckiest people on earth.

In Toronto we certainly have what I would call antiseptically clean facilities unlike those anywhere else in the world. Perhaps it is because the game is so much newer here and there is an appearance of freshness to everything associated with squash. As an example, the eight championship courts at the Gezira Club in Cairo had not had the walls and floors cleaned or painted in something like 50 years, and I suspect that the lighting was original except the lightbulbs might have been changed. How some of the squash players could even see the ball I will never know. The average Egyptian squash player takes these conditions as being normal whereas in this country, they would be completely unacceptable. A good number of the courts that I have visited in

Britain are probably halfway between the typical Egyptian court and what we have come to accept as being a quality club in Canada.

**No other city can lay claim to being called the World Capital of Squash.**

The other thing that strikes me as one of the great advantages of living in Toronto and being a squash player, is that we have the opportunity to watch every form of squash that has ever been played at all levels of expertise. Nowhere else but in North America can one witness the finest doubles players in the world. Nowhere else in North America can we see the top international men and women play soft ball squash at the highest level, and of course we are constantly exposed to the excellent play of the W.P.S.A. hardball tour. We have singles with either ball, doubles and strong junior play for both boys and girls. I don't think that any other city in the world can lay claim to these facts. We have a booming squash community in this area. This in itself might give Toronto the right to claim a position as capital of the squash world, but I think even more important than that is the fact that all the leading squash players in the world, with both ball, all sizes of courts and both sexes, make at least one stop to play in a major tournament in Toronto. Yes, as I say, we are extremely fortunate to be squash players living in Toronto. ●

## HEATHER MCKAY SPEAKS ON TRAINING TECHNIQUES.

Avid squash players and coaches should make every effort to attend a lecture and panel discussion on training techniques. The S.C. Cooper Family Sports Clinic of the Mount Sinai Hospital is hosting the series, which will also include a discussion on road running. The speakers are Heather McKay and Doctors Bob Moore and Bob Goode. Dr. Moore is a biochemist but is better known as an international road racer. Dr. Goode is an exercise physiologist with the University of Toronto. The lecture begins at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 27th, in the 18th floor auditorium of the Mount Sinai Hospital. For further information, contact Kevin Honsberger at 596-4148. ●

## MAYFAIR OPENS FORTH RACQUET CLUB.

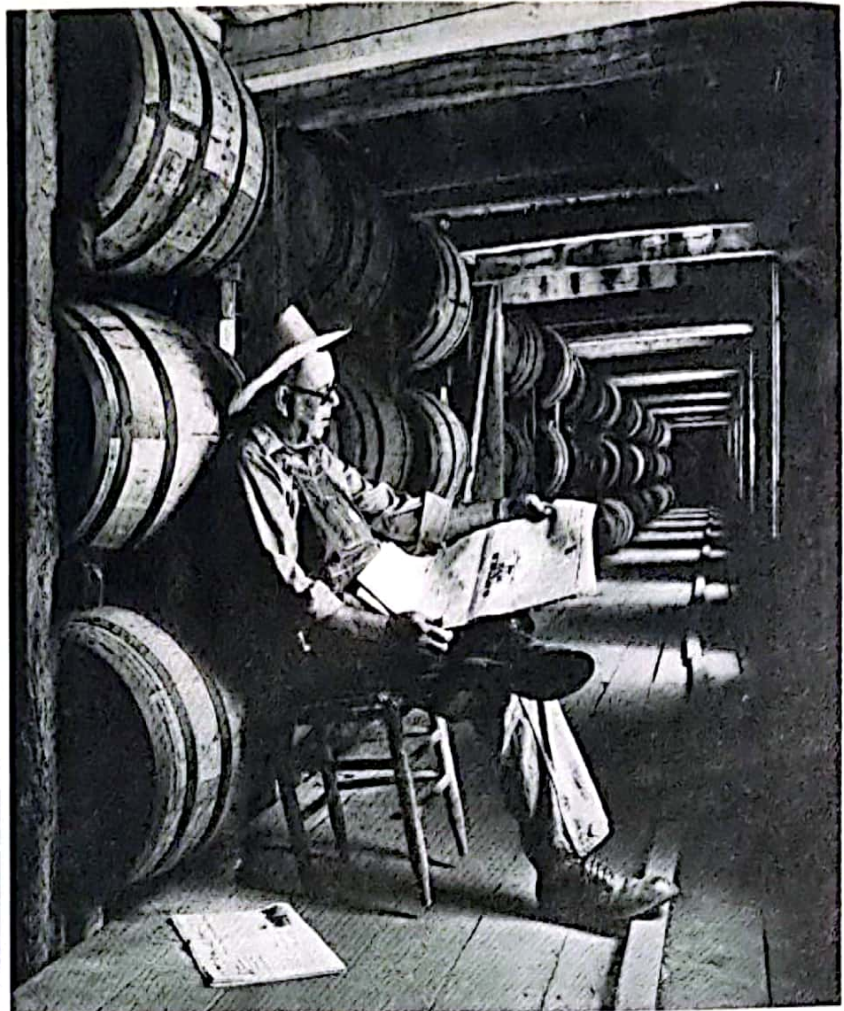
On December 10th, Ken Cheesman, General Manager of Mayfair Racquet Club, officially opened the Mayfair East Racquet Club, 160 Esna Park Drive in Markham.

Mayfair East Racquet Club, the fourth Mayfair, has 10 tennis courts, 4 squash courts and a Nautilus Fitness Centre. Other facilities include whirlpools, saunas, pro shop and a luxurious licensed dining lounge.

The tennis court surface is Omnicourt, a synthetic grass surface which offers the ultimate in playing comfort. Omnicourt is the most modern development in synthetic playing surfaces, and this installation is the first in a major club in Ontario.

The opening of Mayfair East Racquet Club raises the total number of courts at Mayfair to 45 indoor tennis courts, 28 squash courts and 9 racquetball courts. With this new club, total membership at Mayfair is expected to be over 8,000 members, making Mayfair the largest racquet complex in Canada. ●

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1985



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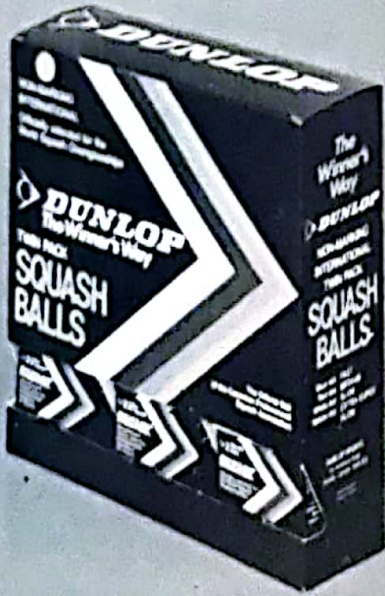
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SQUASH LIFE 9



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Canadian Professional Squash Association

# A STRONG OFFENCE IS YOUR BEST DEFENSE



*Dennis Goodfellow is a Certified Level III Coach. He is the professional at the Ajax Recreation Centre and is currently Vice President of the Canadian Professional Squash Association.*

One of the most important fundamentals in a game is hitting the ball to a good length. In this way we are keeping our opponent in the back of the court in a defensive position. Your opponent is unlikely to execute an attacking shot from the back corners of the court.

The next step to take in a match situation is to keep your opponent off balance, not giving him the opportunity to prepare and set up properly for his next shot. If you find yourself continually returning your opponent's shot from the back of the court, you are allowing him time to

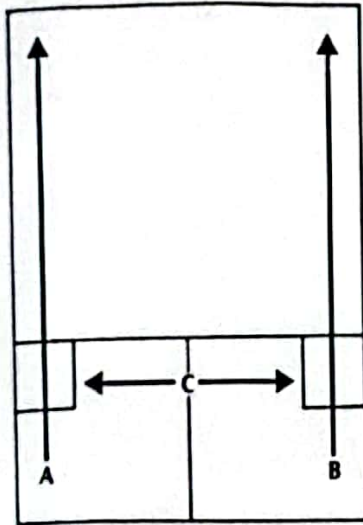
return to the "T" area, preparing to deal with your next shot. The way to keep your opponent off balance and under pressure is to take the ball earlier. By playing the ball before it gets to the back of the court, your opponent will have had less time to recover to the "T" position. He will then have a greater distance to cover to return your next shot and will be less prepared to execute an attacking shot of his own, thus putting him very much on the defensive.

Be selective in the shots you take on the volley. A ball travelling tight to the side wall is not the type to be taken early. As a general rule, a reasonable distance would be half the width of the service box or more. Your ability to cut the ball off early depends on your foot work and racket preparation. Be certain to

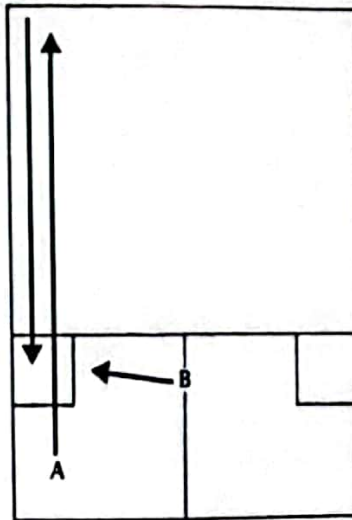
have your racquet back and your feet balanced and pointed towards the side wall.

The cut-off volley can be prac-

tised by two or three people. The following drills will improve your volley and are also designed to practise your length. ●



IN THIS DRILL BOTH "A" AND "B" HAVE A BALL. "A" HITS THE BALL DOWN THE WALL AND "C" MOVES IN FOR THE CUT-OFF AND RETURNS TO THE T. JUST AS "C" IS RETURNING TO THE T, "B" STROKES THE BALL TO LENGTH DOWN THE WALL AND "C" MOVES IN TO CUT IT OFF.



IN THIS DRILL "A" SIMPLY DRIVES THE BALL TO LENGTH AND "B" TRIES TO CUT IT OFF. IF "B" CAN'T, HE MUST GO TO THE BACK AND ASSUME "A"'S POSITION AND STROKE DOWN THE WALL.

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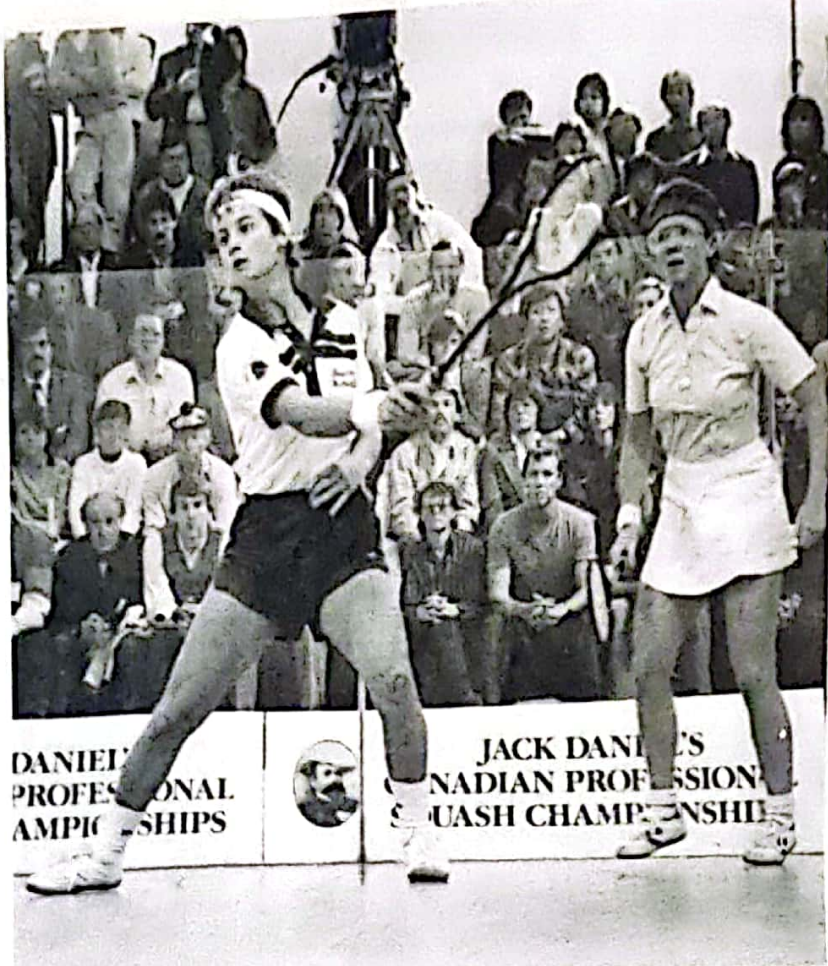


CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Pimm. Gail put it all together during the Jack Daniel's Championships when she first defeated Joyce Maycock in five games and then thoroughly trounced Jo Ann Beckwith in the final. These results have certainly shaken up the national rankings and have definitely given the opposition a lot to think about.

The men's over 35 event started out very small, but unfortunately got even smaller after play began. The ever-popular Sharif Khan was seeded in the top spot and was destined to do battle against Tony Swift in the final. Tony managed an easy semi-final win over Dennis Goodfellow but in so doing, Tony also incurred an injured foot which prevented him from further competition.

The 1984 Jack Daniel's Championships were the largest and most successful ever. The event was organized with the style and polish every major sporting event deserves. The Canadian Professional Squash Association should be justifiably proud of its efforts in making these championships the best to date, and of its contribution to the professional squash scene across Canada. ●



GAIL PIMM (LEFT) SHATTERS SEEDING

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## SUDBURY AREA BOASTS AWARD WINNING RECREATION CENTRE

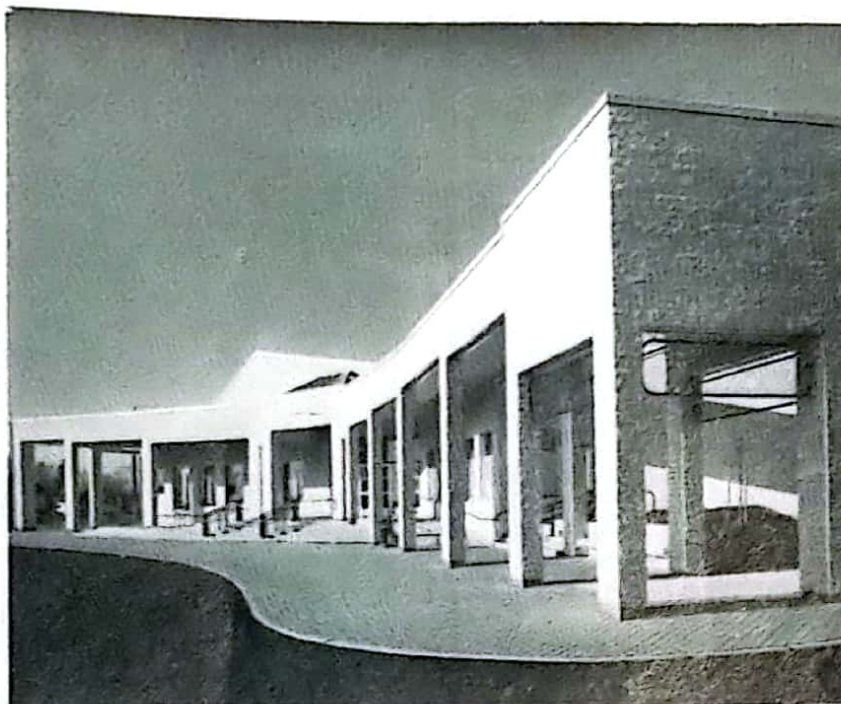
The Valley East Recreation Centre is located 15 km north of Sudbury. The Centre, which opened its doors in October 1983, serves a population of 20,000. The building, which won an Award of Merit from the Ontario Masons Foundation for its unique design, houses a 25 metre pool, whirlpool, indoor running track, hydra gym room, fitness/banquet hall and four international glass backed squash courts. The Pro Shop stocks a complete line of racquets and squash equipment in addition to sporting apparel.

The complex is bright and cheery with many south facing windows that provide natural lighting within. The main lobby and hallway to the squash courts, fitness room and change rooms are open through two stories, atrium style, giving a spacious atmosphere. Heating and cooling for the building are provided by water to water heat pumps, prototypical for a building of this type in Northern Ontario, and part of an energy demonstration project funded by the Federal and Provincial governments.

The pool is well used with approximately 1,500 people per week taking part in structured programmes which include swim lessons, aquatics, diving, synchro and masters swimming.

Fitness classes in the hydra gym room, exercise hall and running track include programmes from yoga and aerobics to regular fitness. Fitness assessments and personal programmes are also available. The Valley East Running Club uses the recreation centre for a base, offering lessons to beginners and making use of the track when weather does not permit running outside.

Squash is gaining popularity with



Unique design for new complex.

approximately 375 people holding squash memberships. Lessons are available to youths and adults in group or private instruction. Along with the youth programme the centre has a junior squash team coached by squash pro/programme supervisor Andre Mrozewski. Squash ladders, in-house tournaments and three major tournaments per year are available for players to participate in. The three major events are the Valley East Recreation Centre Annual in January, the Summer Open in July, and the Northern Ontario Team Championships in October. This year's Summer Open, a first for the north, attracted 58 players including some from Toronto. Hopefully this event will grow in the future and attract more players

from other regions. The Recreation Centre, because of its glass backed courts and viewing capacity, has twice been selected to host Sharif Khan in exhibition matches with local players.

Anyone interested in playing squash while in the Sudbury area is invited to call the centre at (705) 969-4692 and ask for Andre, who will make arrangements for a game. ●

*This space is reserved for members clubs of Squash Ontario. We invite clubs to participate by sending a short write-up and photographs to Squash Life. Reprints are available at minimal cost. For information please contact Squash Ontario, (416) 495-4140.*

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## BARRIE AREA PLAYER DOMINATES MEN'S PROVINCIAL "D"

BY PAUL COMPER

Officially, it was billed as the Ontario Men's "D" Championship. In reality, the general level of play in this "open" tournament - hosted by the Glendon Squash Club in Toronto, and sponsored by Manta Sports and Power Shoes - far exceeded the "D" level.

round match to take the championship. Gary was rewarded for his efforts with a Manta Graphite Composite racquet, while Wayne took home a pair of Power WPSA shoes. Third place went to Roy Vanelk of the University of Toronto.



CHAMPION GARY HELMKAY (LEFT) AND DENIS LAMONDE OF MANTA/POWER.

An early concern of tournament organizers that the turnout would be light, was dispelled by the entry deadline. The draw was filled with 64 entries, with 30 entries from the Glendon club itself. Considering the number of international courts available (four), the large draw necessitated a rather tight schedule of match play. Nevertheless, most matches played were more or less on time and provided players and spectators alike with a non-stop squash weekend.

The tournament was dominated by Gary HelmKay of the Barrie Racquets Club, who defeated Wayne Pakkala of the Mississauga Racquets Club 3-0 in an exciting final-

In the consolation round Stuart Blades, Glendon's last seed of the draw, was pitted against Andre Mrozewski. Andre had come from the Valley East Recreation Centre in Sudbury. In an entertaining and spirited match, Andre defeated Stuart 3-0 to win the consolation. Stuart later had his Glendon membership revoked by the club for disgracing his fallow grades (not really).

All in all, it was a busy and very successful tournament. Thanks are especially due to Denis Lamonde of Manta/Power, whose support and presence throughout the weekend event were appreciated.

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## HAMILTON SQUASH HOSTS REGIONAL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY DAN BEECHEY

On the weekend of October 26th, the members and staff of the Hamilton Squash Club were invaded by juniors. Junior squash players from across Ontario, Quebec, and as far away as Prince Edward Island gathered for the Western Ontario Junior Championships.

The weekend got off to a great start with the early rounds going off like clock-work. With some impressive squash play on Saturday, spectators viewed our own top junior Scott Nash, #1 seed in boys' under 19, go down to defeat in the quarter finals to Robbie Walsh from Ajax. Walsh downed Scott Coleman, also from Ajax, 3-1 in the final.

In boys' under 16, Ric Hartunian from Bramalea defeated Jeremy Fraiberg of Montreal 3-0. Boys' under 14 action saw Duncan Peake of Toronto down Jonathon Power from Quebec 3-1, but Jonathon came back in the under 12 category to defeat Dean Brown 3-0 in the final.

In the girls' division, Jennifer Beck of Toronto fought a close battle with Cathy Green of Ottawa, but came out on top 3-2 at the conclusion. Eleven-year-old Margo Green of Ottawa, after playing 11 matches throughout three days of competition, found herself in the finals of two events, under 16 and under 14. Margo lost in the finals of the under 16 to Lori Coleman of Ajax, but won her championship in the under 14 event over Seanna Keating. Girls' under 12 saw Joanna Richardson of Ottawa defeat Carole Ann Rodgers 3-0.

The weekend was full of excitement. None of this would have been possible without the help received from the members, staff and management of the Hamilton Squash Club, who provided homes and time to billet participants of the tournament. Special thanks to AMF Head for the provision of tournament awards, and to McDonald's for the provision of refreshments.

# SARNIA GIVES WARM RECEPTION TO TOURING JUNIORS

BY GORD McROBIE

The Southwestern Ontario Junior Open Squash Tournament was held in Sarnia on November 23-25, amidst sunny, plus 11 Celsius weather, much to the enjoyment of the travelling out-of-towners. Sixty-five juniors, including three from Montreal, twelve from Ottawa, ten from Ajax, three each from London and Stratford and ten from the Toronto area, competed with twenty-four from Sarnia. The tournament was played at the Sarnia Riding and the Pinsonneault Fitness

and Racquet Clubs.

With a guarantee of three matches, the boys played in main, feed-in and consolation draws, while the girls competed in round-robin events. One hundred and twenty-five matches were played at both clubs on Friday night and Saturday. Consolation winners were determined by the end of Saturday's play. The winners were Jannie Wilson of Sarnia in girls' under 12, Dax Letham of Sarnia in boys' under 12, Carole Ann Rodgers of Ottawa in

girls' under 14, Matthew Waite of Sarnia in boys' under 14, Nigel Thain of Ottawa in boys' under 16, Heather MacLean of Toronto in girls' under 19, and Ross Mackenzie of Ottawa in boys' under 19.

A social evening took place on Saturday night at Pinsonneault's, giving the juniors a break from squash and the opportunity to enjoy some movies, music and dancing. The juniors were treated to hamburgers, french-fries and pop supplied by Harvey's courtesy of Mr. Lee Zentinoglu. Local and visiting parents got a break from watching squash to play some of their own.

Sunday morning began with the feed-in draw finals which saw Joel Clark of Sarnia defeat Scott Barker of Montreal 3-0 in boys under 12, Bob Tamblin of Stratford defeat Joel Clark of Sarnia 3-1 in boys under 14, Dean Brown of Ajax defeat Derek McRobie of Sarnia 3-1 in boys under 16, and Mark Mink of Ajax defeat Peter Robertson of Ajax 3-0 in boys under 19.

The feed-in finals were followed by the third/fourth playoffs. Denise Holmes of Sarnia defeated Allison Simpson of Sarnia 3-0 in girls under 12, Jonathon Power of Montreal



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defeated Rob Wilson of Sarnia 3-0 in boys under 14, Katy Goodchild of London defeated Jennifer Reynolds of Toronto 3-0 in girls under 14, Scott Stoneburgh of Toronto defeated Chris VanRossem of Ajax 3-0 in boys under 16, Kelly Rivers of Toronto defeated Margo Sage of Unionville 3-0 in girls under 16 and Denise Tuma of Ajax defeated Carolyn Green of Ottawa in a close, hard-fought 3-2 match in which Carolyn tied the match at 2-2 after losing the first two games.

The boys under 12 final pitted Jonathon Power of Montreal against Rob Wilson of Sarnia. The match was won by Power 3-0, repeating the result of a final match in Hamilton four weeks earlier. Wilson is, however, gaining tournament experience and we look forward to close, exciting matches between these two juniors in future tournaments. Joanna Richardson of Ottawa defeated Ann Goodchild of London 3-0 in the girls under 12 category while Dean Brown of Ajax defeated Duncan Peake of Richmond Hill 3-0 in the boys under 14 category, which saw Peake give Brown some anxious moments by retrieving and returning some pretty difficult shots.

Margo Green of Ottawa, who like Dean Brown, Jonathon Power, Rob Wilson and Joel Clark, played in two age categories and won them both, defeating Seanna Keating of Toronto 3-0 in girls under 14 and Stephanie Richardson of Ottawa 3-0 in girls under 16. What more can be

said about this energetic star of the future? Ric Hartunian of Bramalea, with an almost flawless display of shot-making, defeated David Rosen of Ottawa 3-0 in the boys under 16 final. Cathy Green of Ottawa defeated Louise Waite of Sarnia 3-0 in the girls under 19 final. This match could have had a different result had it not been for Cathy's

intense recovery while down 8-6 in the second game. Keith Patterson of Ottawa defeated Scott Coleman of Ajax 3-1 in the boys under 19 final. Coleman played a strong tournament and played equally well but his tenacious play in the final was not quite enough against the steady Patterson.

All in all, the tournament was a success thanks to Dunlop for donating the generous prizes and tournament balls, Frank Pinsonneault and Dennis Ensom for providing their club facilities, Lee Zentinoglu for Harvey's food donation, Kathy McRobie for organizing the billets, Daphne Clark and Marg Farmer for organizing Saturday and Sunday lunches, Doug Wilson for his in-depth assistance in setting up the draws and schedules, Lew Waite for his overall coordination and guidance, the junior squash players and both the local parents for providing the hospitality and the out-of-town parents for driving long distances to get juniors to the tournament.

Well before the sun was ready to set over Lake Huron, the juniors and adults said their good-byes and the visiting groups left in a caravan for the homeward drive in the almost summer-like weather. We look forward to a repeat on all counts next year. ●

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# B.C. TAKES PROVINCIAL TEAM TITLE

BY MIKE WAY

The "Barmen" of British Columbia triumphed over the Manitoba "Night Owls" after an exhausting weekend of squash. There were, however, some very tense moments in the semi-finals before the third and fourth seeded teams booked their places in the final.

The ten teams in the championships played a round-robin competition on Friday and Saturday in two pools of five teams each. The

top two teams of each pool went through to the semi-finals with the other six playing off for respective positions.

The round-robin produced no surprises. Alberta beat Manitoba 2/1 after Arthur Hough wore down Gene Turk 9-0 in the fifth. Gary Waite of Ontario sealed the match against British Columbia by beating John Fleury 9-6 in the fifth. Fleury went on a mental "walkabout" after

being 6-1 up in that last game. The more experienced Doug Whittaker beat Trevor Thom 3/1, with Steve Lawton capturing a consolation match for B.C. over a mesmerized Norm Platt.

After round robin play, the semi-final match-ups were Alberta vs British Columbia, and Ontario vs Manitoba.

The match between Pat Heffernon (Alta.) and Trevor Thom (B.C.) was one of the outstanding matches played over the weekend. A very steady Heffernon went 2/0 up and twice served for the match in the third game. Determined Thom denied him. He clinched that game, moved up a gear and won 9-0 in the fifth to the sheer relief of his teammates, Fleury and Lawton, who possibly burnt up more calories watching the match than Trevor Thom did playing it!

Steve Lawton beat Arthur Hough 10-8, 9-1, 9-2 after Canadian Open Champion Dale Styner continued his demolition job on all opponents, beating Fleury 3/0 in the time it takes to cook an omelette! The result of this semi-final went in British Columbia's favour.

The first match in the other semi-final was also close - to say the least. Doug Whittaker held match ball at 8-5 in the fifth against Murray MacRae of Manitoba, but was denied as MacRae fought back to win 10-8. Gary Waite defeated a tiring Bill Turk 9-0 in the fifth. Gene Turk clinched the match with a 3/0 victory over Norm Platt.

The championship match was between British Columbia and Manitoba. An increasingly confident and fitter Trevor Thom ran Murray MacRae ragged 9-2, 9-6, 9-1. An exhausted John Fleury, defeated an equally exhausted Bill Turk 2-9, 9-7, 9-4, 9-7 to wrap up the match and the championship. Steve Lawton challenged Gene Turk to a "beer best of 3" as their result was academic. With so much at stake, Australians rarely falter!

Ontario and Alberta then played for third place. Pat Heffernon worked hard for a 10-9, 10-8, 9-5 win over Doug Whittaker in the first match. Norm Platt found top gear against Arthur Hough, taking the first two games 9-2, 9-3. However, Hough was down but not out as he took the next three games 9-2, 9-1, 9-2. That match followed a tremendous battle between Dale Styner, Canadian Senior Champion and Gary Waite, Canadian Junior Champion.

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Gary played a superb length to prevent Dale's awesome volleying and in so doing, managed to slow the game down. The first game was a long, tense affair with Waite squeezing him 9-7. Dale took control in the second 9-4. Gary Waite looked decidedly the worse for wear but ably assisted by Dale's unforced errors, the third game went briskly to Gary 9-2. The frustrated Albertan continued to find the tin, giving Gary an early lead in the fourth game. This was not relinquished despite a gutsy performance from Dale. Full credit must be given to Master Waite, mature beyond his years. This affable young man will no doubt be adding to his growing collection of scalps. As for Dale Styner - well, somehow I think he'll be back!

Finally, a word of thanks to the staff of the Valhalla Squash Club for an excellent weekend, to the players from the east coast who came to compete, learn and enjoy watching Canada's best, and lastly to the tremendous support of the Wilson Sports Equipment Company, who sponsored the event. ●

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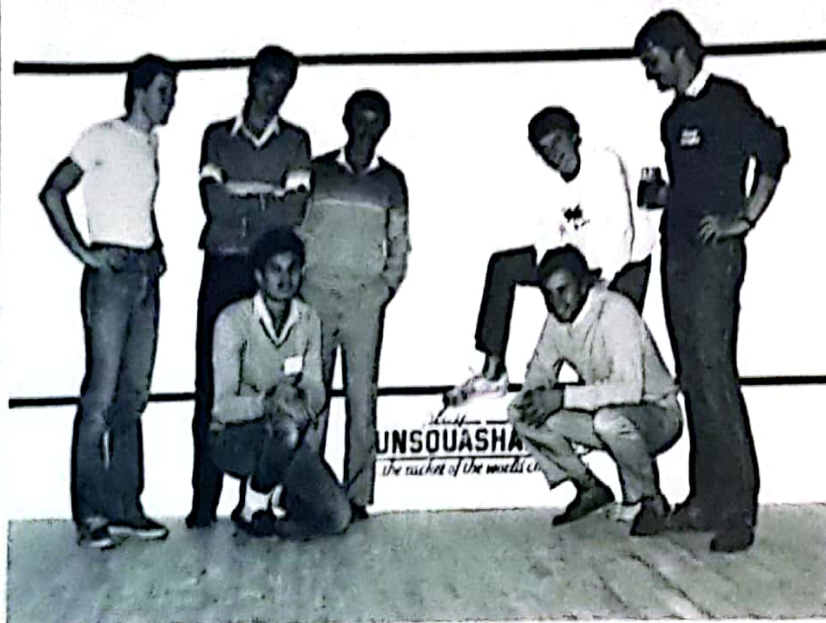
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# HAMILTON SQUASH CHRISTENS NEW COURTS

BY DAN BEECHY



PRO LINEUP: (LEFT TO RIGHT) MIKE WAY, ROY OLLIER, GENE DUVAL, GARY WAITE, JOHN FLEURY, (KNEELING) MAX WEITHERS AND DOUG WHITAKER.

The Hamilton Squash Club was the site for one of the most involved tournament weekends seen in the region this year. The squash club hosted a professional event, a men's "B" and the Women's Ontario "D" Championship in conjunction with our Open House festivities. All the events were a great success combining fabulous play, a very social atmosphere and great food!

The Unsquashable Professional Invitation matches commenced on Wednesday, November 21st, with Roy Ollier, Max Weithers, John Fleury and Gary Waite advancing to the semi-finals over Gene Duval, Norm Platt, Doug Whittaker and Mike Way respectively. On Thursday, both semi-finals displayed spectacular shot making and endurance. The Saturday evening final was played before a full house. All present were impressed with Roy Ollier as he downed Gary Waite 9-6, 9-3, 9-2. In the third place playoff, Max Weithers upset John Fleury 9-4, 9-2, 9-6. Max demonstrated superior court movement

and an uncanny ability to repeatedly find the nick.

The courts were kept busy through Sunday afternoon with competition in the women's "D" and men's "B". The women's "D" boasted a small draw but very good calibre of play. Our new Women's "D" Champion for the 1984/85 season is Ann Lennox out of Owen Sound. Ann defeated Joyce Mann of Toronto's Crescent Town Club in

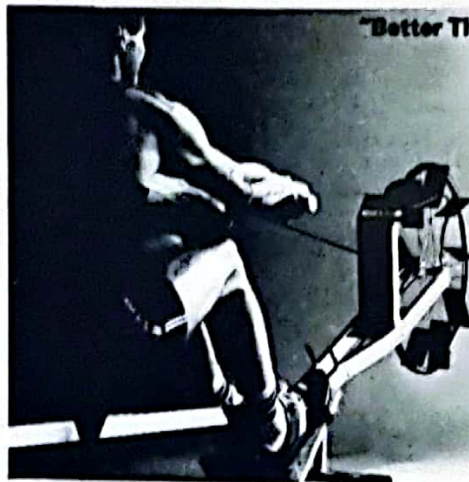
the final with scores of 4-9, 9-4, 9-5, 9-7. Placing third and fourth, both from the host club, were Eva Hislop and Renata Slapsys. The consolation event winner was Jennifer Newman, who defeated Marla Meitsemann, who defeated Marla Meitsemann 3-2 in that final. The tinnners champion was Mary Stockwell over Kathy Griffiths.

The men's "B" open displayed a very competitive draw top to bottom. There were twenty players who, for the most part, have competed against one another in league play. However, as in most local events there is one out-of-towner who brings them all back to earth and this event was to be no exception. Bob Shine from Toronto's Mayfair Parkway walked through the draw, giving up only two games during the tournament.

Bob defeated some of our top western region players, Mike Hirschman, Jim Martel, Henry Willis and never stopped his legs or his shots until he had downed John Nelles of the Hamilton Thistle Club in the finals. Nelles made it to the finals by defeating Colin Hislop, Leo Smits and Doug Wyman.

The third and fourth playoff winner was Colin Hislop in a duel of endurance with Jim Martel of Northfield Doon. The match scores were 6-9, 0-9, 9-5, 9-0, 9-6. The men's consolation went to Leo Smits, who defeated Henry Willis 3-0 and the tinnners champion was Doug Wyman, who defeated John Marx in three games.

As the tournament chairman, I would like to thank all the event participants for their help in officiating all the matches and for keeping the tournament on schedule. A special thank you to our sponsors, Unsquashable Canada and Caring O'Keefe Breweries. Without their enthusiastic support of Ontario, tournaments would not be so successful.



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# FIRST NORTHERN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS WON BY HOST TEAM

The Valley East Recreation Centre hosted the first Northern Ontario Team Championships during the weekend of October 19th. The event was attended by 56 players representing the Sault Ste. Marie YMCA, North Bay YMCA, Sudbury YMCA, Cambrian College and the host club.

In the men's "A" category, Rich Fleming of the Sault Ste. Marie YMCA defeated Rick Wagg of the North Bay YMCA three games to two. In the men's "B" final, Scott Carr of the North Bay YMCA defeated Peter St.-Denis of Cambrian College. Rene Charette of the host club beat Bob Rainbird of the Sault for the "C" title. In an all Valley East affair, Pete Lavigne defeated Mich Martel, one of the two juniors entered in the tournament, for the "D" title. Although the match only lasted three games it was a very close match, as indicated by the scores of 9-7, 10-9, 10-9.

In another Valley East affair, Sylvestre "Bee" Larocque overcame a 0-2 deficit to beat Bob Matson for the men's novice title. In the ladies' "B" final, Judy Desrosiers of the North Bay YMCA defeated Louise Hickey of Cambrian College. Susan Farrow of Cambrian College beat Ruth Couchie of the North Bay YMCA 3-1 for the ladies' "C" title. In yet another Valley East final, Cathy Matson took first place by defeating Brenda Larocque in three games for the ladies' novice crown.

The Valley East Recreation Club took first place in the team championships, with Cambrian College and the North Bay YMCA placing second and third respectively.

Tournament chairman Andre Mrozewski, would like to thank all volunteers who helped out during the tournament. Needless to say, the success of the event was largely due to their efforts. Also many thanks to C.H.N.A., Labatt's, Neelon Casting Ltd., Slazengers and Tasse Automobiles Ltd. for their generous contributions. ●

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# HAMILTON DUO TRIUMPHS IN PRO-KENNEX MIXED DOUBLES

BY JAN ATKINSON

Hamilton sports fans had a lot to cheer about on Sunday, November 11th. The Ticats had just won a berth in the Grey Cup and the Steeltown duo of Jeff McKay and Karen Jerome won the Ontario Mixed Doubles Championship. It must be pointed out that their Toronto opposition of Tim Peterson and Barbara Savage did not lay down and die, as it has been suggested of the Argos. The final was a five game thriller with no more than a five point difference in any of the games. Jeff McKay is one of the fastest men on the doubles court, and he certainly needed every bit of his speed to cover Tim Peterson's remarkable reverse corner. Barbara Savage has been to the winner's circle in doubles more often than anyone. To her credit are three

Canadian Mixed, two Ontario Mixed and one U.S. Women's Doubles titles. If anyone was the underdog on the court it was Karen Jerome, who is to be congratulated for her play. I am sure Karen was still reeling from the amount of play she saw in their earlier semi-final match against Heather and Brian McKay. Much to her credit, Karen kept her head and played a steady, error-free final match against the top seeded team of Peterson and Savage.

Hamilton Squash Club proved an excellent venue for the event which attracted a quality draw of 17 teams. The glass backed court provided superb viewing facilities for players and interested spectators alike. The ability to view and relax in comfort certainly added to the social atmosphere throughout the weekend.

Saturday afternoon's quarter-finals produced some excellent squash, but the most exciting match by far was the contest between Jim Shaw and Sandra Penney against Ann Thompson and Don Benson. The gallery was kept on the edge of the seats during the long, see-saw battle that resulted in a 17-15 in the fifth victory for Shaw and Penney.

A consolation event was held for first round losers. The final was an all-Hamilton affair with Tom Watts and Leah Ann Wright emerging victorious over Fred Beasley and Julie Murray.

The mixed doubles season is unfortunately all too short, but it is always met with great enthusiasm. It is particularly encouraging to see the number of new players coming into the game, and this tournament witnessed the debut of several new players and a few new partnerships.

Many thanks to our hosts for the weekend and to the Hamilton Thisle Club for helping out with the use of their court. Pro Kennex generously sponsored the event and Charlie O'Meara was on hand to present the awards to the deserving winners. ●

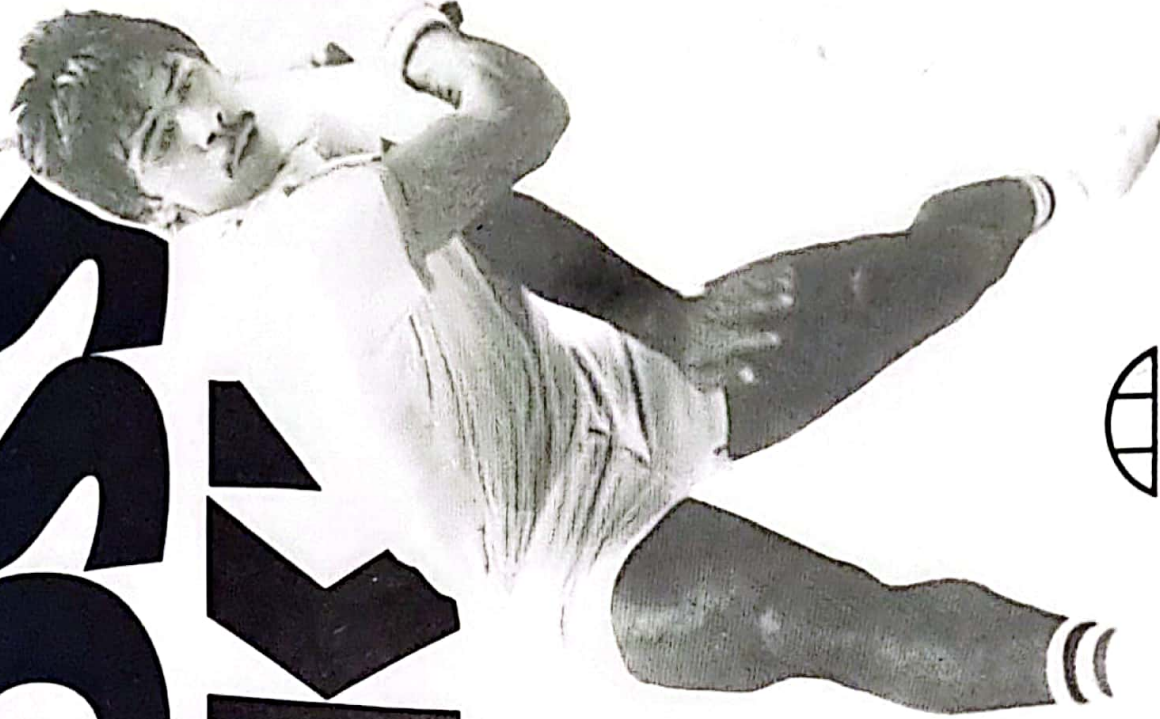
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