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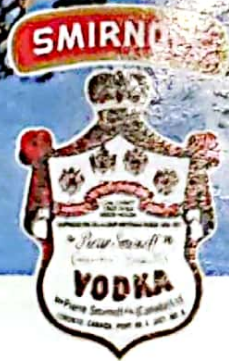




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Marketing Inc., 135 Heddington
Ave., Toronto, Ontario M5N 2K9.
(416) 484-0060.

SQUASH LIFE is published 5 times a year by Squash Ontario, 1220 Sheppard Ave. E., Willowdale, Ont. M2K 2X1. Telephone (416) 495-4140. It is published to give voice to and promote squash in the province. We invite members of the sport community to contribute articles on every aspect of squash, and welcome readers' comments on the contents of this magazine. The contents of this publication may be reproduced or broadcast, provided credit is given SQUASH LIFE and author. The views expressed in SQUASH LIFE are not necessarily those of Squash Ontario. Over 7,500 copies of SQUASH LIFE are distributed in bulk and on a complimentary basis to every squash facility in the province, as well as to a number of clubs and associations across Canada.

SQUASH

L I F E

NOV./DEC. 1986

VOL. 10, No. 5

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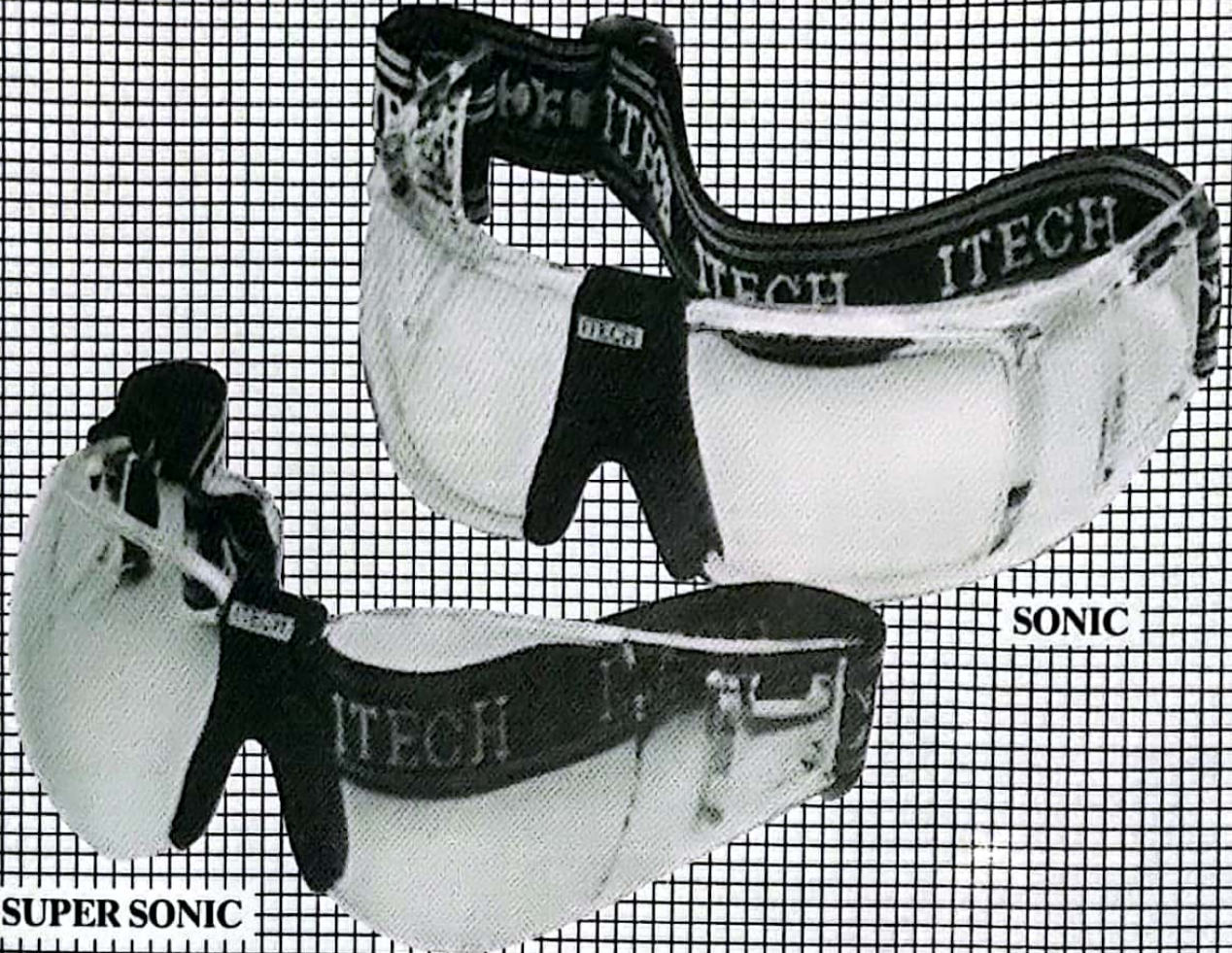
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A LITTLE MORTAR... A FEW BRICKS... A LOT OF LOVE!

It has been written that "tradition cannot be inherited, and if you want it you must obtain it by great labour". In 1978, Squash Ontario unveiled its first charity event, a concept which successfully married your love of squash with the spirit of giving. As the years passed, the charity tournament grew in both participants and stature and is now steeped in a tradition of its own.

The logistics of running an event involving 3,000 players are formidable, but the results over the years have been truly rewarding. Squash players have contributed more than \$100,000 to the Ontario Heart Foundation and the Multiple Sclerosis Society, a remarkable record by any standard and one of which all of us should be proud. These two particular charities have an obvious correlation with squash and those people who play it. A fit and active person reduces the risk of heart disease and stroke and so it seemed appropriate to support the Heart Foundation in the yearly years of the tournament. Multiple sclerosis, on the other hand, strikes between the ages of 20 and 40 - distressingly similar demographics to those who play squash. Donating needed dollars for research was certainly within our best interests.

There are so many charities desperately deserving of support and probably one or more have touched each one of us in some way. There is, however, a common thread which runs through the fabric of all our lives and that is children, and so the proceeds from the 1987 Amstel Light Charity Challenge will be donated to Ronald McDonald Houses of Canada.

A Ronald McDonald House is a home-away-from-home, a temporary lodging facility where families of children being treated for cancer, leukemia and other serious illnesses can reside while the child receives treatment at a nearby children's hospital. The idea originated with the Philadelphia Eagles of the National Football

League when the daughter of one of their teammates was stricken with leukemia. The players wanted to help and sought advice from the child's physician as to the best way they could. They were told that there was a desperate need for a home-away-from-home facility near the hospital and, together with a number of McDonald's restaurants, raised the needed funds. That was the beginning. The concept was introduced to Canada in 1981 with the opening of our first House in Toronto, located within walking distance of the Hospital for Sick Children. Since that time, Houses have been established in London, Halifax, Edmonton, Montreal, Ottawa, Calgary, Vancouver, Winnipeg and Saskatoon. In fact, anywhere there is a children's hospital, there is or will be, a Ronald McDonald House.

And so, in keeping with the tradition of the Charity Challenge, Squash Ontario and Amstel Brewery Canada Limited are asking you to once again play squash, not for the heart this time, but from the heart. Each club in the province has been sent information on how to run an Amstel Light Charity Challenge. This year, there are 14 different skill levels, with a Men's 35+ and Women's 40+ added so that we may include all club players. A ten dollar (\$10.00) entry fee guarantees the first 4,000 participants a specially designed '87 Amstel Light Charity Challenge t-shirt. All club winners will progress on to a Regional Championship and winners of that level will be brought to Toronto, courtesy of Amstel and Wintario, to compete in the Provincial Championships. These are scheduled for February 28 and March 1, 1987 at Mayfair Parkway Racquet Club in Markham.

The key to the success of this event lies squarely at the club level. If we do not have the mass participation there, the momentum is lost. So we are again including a club management event as an incentive to get as many people involved as

possible. Any club entering over 75 participants in its championships earns the organizer, whether that be the chairman of the squash committee or the club professional, a trip to Toronto to compete for prize money on the finals weekend. Last year, 13 club representatives made the trip, with the Squash Academy's Gordon Anderson the eventual winner over Northfield Doon's Ralph Bentfeld.

One of the most unique aspects of the Amstel Light Charity Challenge is that it is the only event which pits region against region in 14 different skill levels. In the beginning, Toronto and District consistently walked away with the lion's share of the titles, but times have changed! In 1986, Thunder Bay's Bill Krezonoski pulled off a stunning upset over Toronto's Mario Raponi to capture the Men's A Championship, and 14-year-old Margo Green of Ottawa, startled everyone by winning the Women's B title. These excellent wins reflect the strength and depth of play in all regions outside of Toronto and should forever eliminate the hesitancy on anyone's part to compete.

Our goal this year is to raise \$40,000 for Ronald McDonald Houses of Canada. That means we need 4,000 people to play in Amstel Light Charity Challenge club championships... in other words, **WE NEED YOU!** Play regardless of your skill level. This is a fun event where winning your match isn't everything, playing is! In fact, the winners will be the children and families who must use the facilities of a Ronald McDonald House.

For those of you who ask, "But what can one person do?", the answer is simple. It is not a great deal alone but, with help, much can be accomplished. The contributions of 4,000 squash players can make a house a home.



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THE SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS

BY SHERRY FUNSTON

Jahangir Khan won yet another championship on November 2nd, a feat he has accomplished with almost monotonous regularity over the past five years. This time he successfully defended his Drakkar Noir Canadian Open title in an hour and 20-minute match against New Zealand's Stuart Davenport. These two men are a study in contrasts. Khan's short, compact and muscular frame is the antithesis of the lanky 6'5" Davenport. The contrast extends to the court, where Stuart's quick wit and sense of humour is often a welcome respite from the sphinx-like Khan.

The first game of the final lasted just short of 40 minutes, with Davenport showing grim determination to come back from 2-6 only to lose the game 9-6. His height is both an asset and a liability. He makes full use of his great reach but his lack of agility results in his inability to clear quickly. On more than one occasion, a 23 or 25 stroke rally ended in a let call and gave Khan a stroke 11 times. Consequently, the first game seemed to drag on and while the crowd was most appreciative of the quality of the squash, it was sometimes unresponsive in its vocal encouragement of both players.

If Khan's strategy in that first game was to tire Davenport, it worked. The next two games lasted just 20 minutes and earned Jahangir Khan \$12,500, one of the biggest pay cheques of his career. The score of the match was 9-6, 9-2, 9-2.

The Drakkar Noir, the second event in the North American portion of the Grand Prix circuit, produced its share of upsets along the way. The quarter final round saw number two seed Ross Norman go down to defeat at the hands of England's venerable Hiddy Jahan. Hiddy played brilliantly, hitting nick after nick with alarming accuracy while a stunned Norman could only look on in dismay.

Fourth seed Ross Thorne of Australia faced England's Geoff Williams in another quarter final match. Thorne played well in the first game, expertly moving Williams around the court. He won that game 9-5 but seemed to go to sleep in the second. When he finally woke up, Williams had won the next three games 9-2, 9-4, 9-7 and a disappointed Thorne packed his bags.

Jamie Hickox was no match for Stuart Davenport, losing his quarter final 9-4, 9-1, 9-3. Davenport is deadly at the front of the court and

his long reach enables him to get to virtually any shot. Ricki Hill of Australia was Jahangir Khan's victim in this quarter final round. Hill entered the court sporting what he hoped was a very scary Hallowe'en mask, but Khan knew exactly who it was and showed no sign of fright. Hill did manage to take one game from Khan, the second 9-5, but he gave it his all in that one and had nothing left for the subsequent games. He's a great young competitor and never once gave up, although his face was etched in pain during the last game.

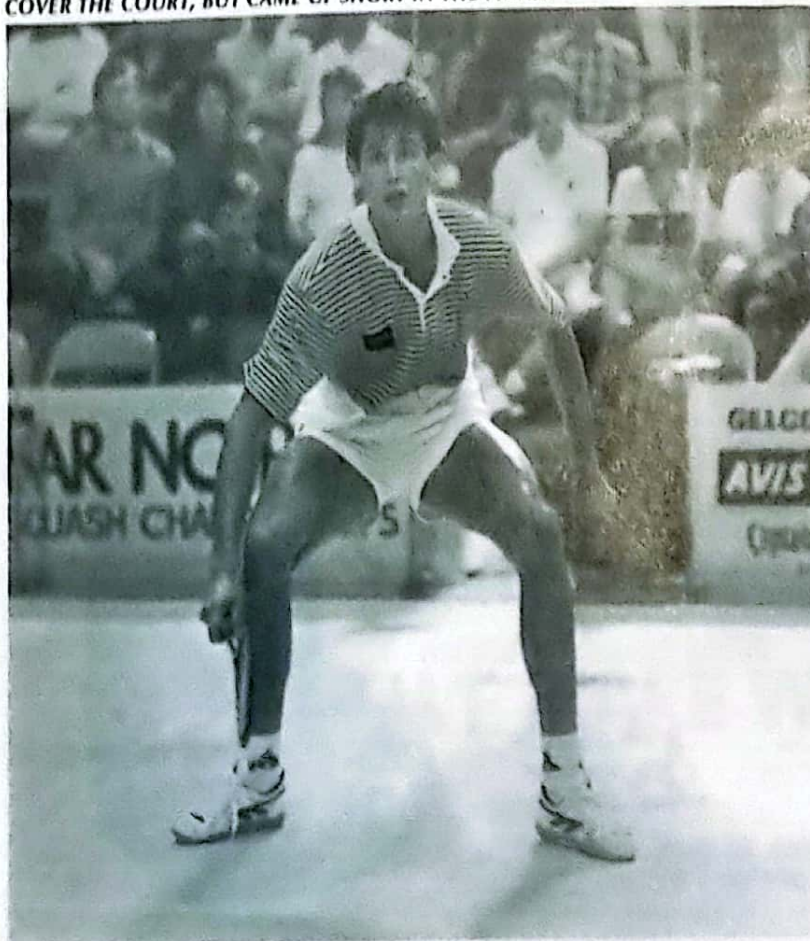
The semi final matches went pretty much according to seed. Hiddy Jahan's brilliance in the day before, deserted him when he came up against Stuart Davenport. The shots that were dead nick on Friday were a touch too low on Saturday, and Davenport handled him easily 9-6, 9-4, 10-8. Jahangir spent no time with Geoff Williams, winning in three games, 6, 6 and love.

Jahangir Khan's proven ability to completely dominate even his closest rivals prompted the organizers of the Drakkar Noir to include a play-off for third and fourth prior to the final. In this way, those attending the final would be guaranteed



JAHANGIR KHAN LOST ONLY ONE GAME EN ROUTE TO WINNING HIS SECOND CANADIAN OPEN TITLE.

STUART DAVENPORT OF NEW ZEALAND NEEDED ALL OF HIS 6½ FOOT HEIGHT TO COVER THE COURT, BUT CAME UP SHORT IN THE FINAL.



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ENGLAND'S HIDDY JAHAN, THE GENTLE GIANT, WAS A SURPRISE SEMI-FINALIST WITH HIS DECISIVE VICTORY OVER SECOND SEEDED ROSS NORMAN.

perhaps two hours of squash as opposed to a possible 30 minutes. It might have worked if Hiddy Jahan had played to his seeding instead of upsetting Ross Norman. No one was more surprised than Hiddy, when he found himself playing a semi final match on Saturday afternoon. Unfortunately, he had already booked his return flight to England, and was not able to stay to compete in the play-off. Instead, Jamie Hickox and Geoff Williams put on a very entertaining exhibition

for the crowd, which Williams won in just under an hour, 3-0.

There is a move afoot to try and make the soft ball game at the international level a more exciting and quicker game. Changes would include lowering the tin to 17" and hardball scoring to 15. Apparently even the players now agree that something drastic must be done to make the game more palatable to both television and spectators. These anticipated changes may take place in several events as early as next year. Organizers of the Drakkar Noir are hopeful that their 1987 event will be one of those selected for the great experiment. These changes will hopefully have a very positive effect on a game which is acknowledged to be a tough sell to the media and fans. We are finally admitting that the flaw lies not with the players, some of whom have merely perfected their skills to the nth degree, but with the game itself. Perhaps it is time to make each point a critical one, where an error results in a point as opposed to loss of serve. This would make the game far more exciting and entertaining for the spectators and much more demand-

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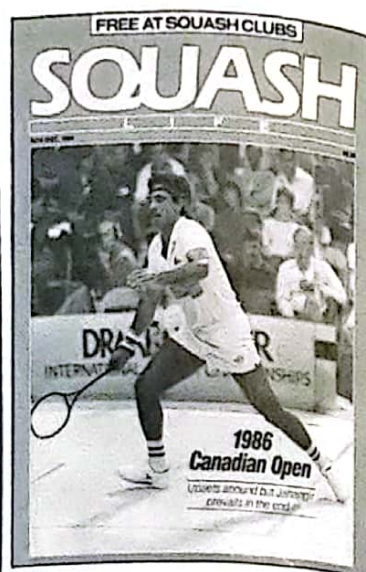
GEOFF WILLIAMS SCORES AN IMPORTANT WIN OVER ROSS THORNE, BUT RAN OUT OF LUCK AGAINST JAHANGIR.

ing for the players.

The purse for the Drakkar Noir was one of the largest ever offered in squash, which is one reason we were treated to seeing the finest players this game has produced in many years. It is the Stuart Davenport, Glen Brumbys and Greg Pollards

who are going to break new ground in the years to come. They will carry squash into new dimensions for they not only have the skill and talent but also the vision to see, not what is there, but what could be there. If you missed the Drakkar Noir this year, don't in 1987. ●

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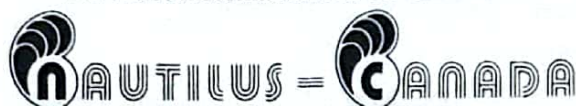
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Nancy Cranbury named most improved player



Nancy Cranbury, squash professional of the Rideau Tennis and Squash Club, was named the recipient of the Heather McKay Bowl. The award is presented annually to the female squash player in Ontario showing the most improvement in playing ability during a single season. Results obtained in tournaments in and outside of

Ontario are reflected in the annual rankings.

Nancy is the second recipient of the Bowl. Gail Pimm was the first to be honored for achievements in the 1984-1985 season. The award has been established in Heather's name by her many friends in Ontario. The permanent trophy is maintained at the Toronto Cricket, Skating and

Curling Club, with the winner receiving a replica.

A board of trustees, Barbara Savage, Jim Adam and Penny Glover, administer the award. Nancy Cranbury was presented the Heather McKay Bowl by Penny Glover during the recent Smirnoff Canadian Women's Open. ●



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ROYAL TRUST BEGINS 1987 IN STYLE

Squash fans will be pleased to learn that the World Professional Squash Championships are returning to the Grand Ballroom of Toronto's Sheraton Centre. The Championships took a sabbatical in Toledo last year. Royal Trust, Canada's leading trust company, is sponsoring the U.S. \$70,000 event.

Championships will be held in men's pro, teaching pro, veterans and the first ever women's pro. Played on the three glass walled tour court, the event can accommodate over 1,200 spectators. The tournament runs from Friday, January 2nd, through Wednesday, January 7th, 1987.

Once again, charity will be a winner thanks to squash. The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, the W.P.S.A.'s official charity, will receive 50¢ for every ticket sold. For further details and ticket information, call (416) 869-3499. ●

REGINA & VICTORIA TO HOST PROVINCIAL TEAMS

Ontario squash players who are interested in being selected to the Men's and Women's Provincial Teams must compete in the Ontario Closed Championships. Three men and three women will represent Ontario at the Canadian Provincial Team Championships, January 23-25, 1987 in Regina and Victoria respectively. Players will be provided with air tickets to the team events. Selection to the teams will be made based on results obtained in the Ontario Closed Championships or current C.S.R.A. rankings. For further information, contact Squash Ontario at (416) 495-4140. For information on the Ontario Closed Championships, call Mike W... the Valhalla Squash Club, 239-2783. ●



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Martine Le Moignan Wins Second Traviss With Style

BY JAN ATKINSON

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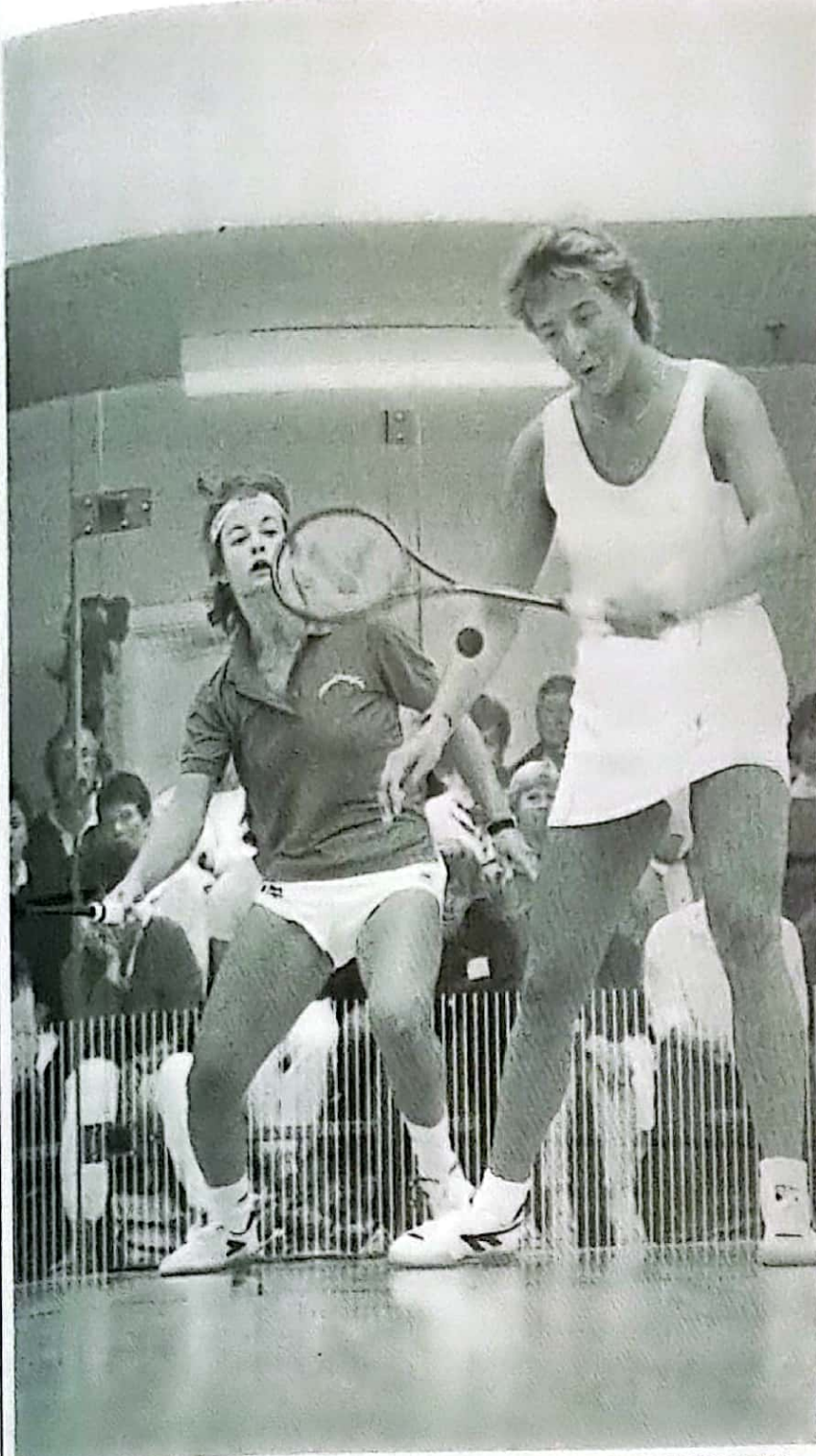
On the east side of Sixteen Mile Creek, you will find the charming Oakville Club. One of Canada's oldest members' clubs, the Oakville Club virtually exudes history and tradition. The squash section is an active one at a club which also offers tennis, badminton and fine dining, not to mention the luxury yachts moored at the club's doorstep. This venerable institution, however, was not prepared to sit back and watch the squash world pass it by, and recently undertook a complete renovation of the squash section. The Oakville Club is now the proud home of four brand new International squash courts.

The weekend of September 19th witnessed the merging of traditions. The Judy Traviss International has developed an impressive reputation in the 13 years since it began. The Traviss, named in memory of Judy, who was both an accomplished player and leader in the development of women's squash, is symbolic of style and custom. It was therefore most appropriate that the Oakville Club and its members be charged with the task of maintaining the Traviss tradition. Joining the tournament was a new sponsor to squash. Spring Valley, producers and bottlers of artesian spring water, provided the cash incentive for the very talented players who were competing for the Judy Traviss title.

Favoured to win the event was defending champion, Martine Le Moignan of England. Martine first travelled to Canada in 1981 as part of the English team competing in the World Championships. Martine has a special affection for Toronto, and has travelled to Canada for the past three years just to compete in the Traviss! Martine is now number two in the world and is optimistic about winning her first British Open this coming spring.

However, there were other entries in the event, and whom would be trying their best to upset the number one seed. Among the contenders was second seeded Heather Wallace. Heather had virtually just moved to Ontario that very week from her Scottish homeland. Currently ranked number one in Scotland and fifth in the world, Heather was seeded two in the event. Both of these world ranked players would face a group of talented Canadians attempting to topple the seedings.

The weekend was full of surprises, the most notable being Gail Fimm's



GAIL PIMM (background) FELL ONE MIRACLE SHORT IN A ONE SIDED FINAL AGAINST WORLD NO. 2, MARTINE LE MOIGNAN.

semi-final victory over Heather Wallace. Gail proved that her extended training regimen in Australia during the summer months was well worth the effort. The first game was long and hard fought, ending 10-9 in Gail's favour. It would appear from the final scores that that one point made the difference between winning and losing to Heather Wallace. Gail definitely had the fitness advantage over Heather in this encounter, as Gail won out the five game match, 10-9, 0-9, 8-10, 9-1, 9-0. A notable performance was recorded by Carla Jensen, who improved on her seeded position by one place in defeating Ann Thompson. Fourteen-year-old Margo Green stole everyone's heart during the weekend. Young Margo's most impressive win was over Jennifer Birch-Jones. Margo's progress through the consolation event was halted by another Green. Anne Green defeated Margo in four games on her way to repeating as winner of the consolation event. That final was a replay of last year, with Anne prevailing in five games over Ottawa's Lynn Noel.

The players were treated to a weekend of non-stop squash and hospitality. Mother Nature even cooperated, providing classic blue skies and warm temperatures on the Sunday. The only disappointment of the tournament was the championship final. The large crowd had gathered, eagerly anticipating a further display of "giant killing" by Gail Pimm. Her semi-final dismissal of Heather Wallace had everyone wondering if she could do it again. However, this story didn't end the same as David and Goliath. Martine Le Moignan had no intention of furthering Gail's career and summarily disposed of her in 23 minutes (9-6, 9-0, 9-2).

From all accounts, Nancy Gosling and her committee ran a first rate tournament. Congratulations to all involved: volunteers, players and tournament sponsor, Spring Valley. The Squash tradition continued.

Squash is my life!
by BROWNING

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TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT

BY SHERRY FUNSTON

At long last it would appear that the Canadian Standards Association is ready to release the names of those manufacturers whose products have successfully passed the standard written for protective eyewear in racquet sports. The announcement date is scheduled for sometime in late November or early December.

What appeared to be a relatively easy procedure some four years ago,

developed into one nightmare after another for both the Canadian Standards Association and the manufacturers. Testing and subsequent approval was delayed time and time again, but finally all obstacles have been overcome. There is no question that C.S.A. approved eyewear will prove invaluable in our efforts to convince all squash players that, regardless of skill level, they are not

immune to eye injuries.

Again in the 1986-1987 season, eyeguards will be mandatory for anyone competing in an Ontario Championship. With very few exceptions, we encountered little problem in enforcing the regulation last season, and after three years of constant reinforcement, we do not expect any opposition this year.

Imperial Optical Sports is entering its second year of assisting Squash Ontario in trying to make all squash players informed consumers. We are both committed to an educational programme which, hopefully, will persuade players to wear eyeguards and now, with C.S.A. approved eyewear imminent, our job should be that much easier.

The issue of mandatory eyewear was discussed at length at the Squash Ontario annual meeting this past June. Support for the ruling itself was unanimous amongst the regions, but concerns were raised as to the legal ramifications if it was not enforced. This led into a full scale discussion of liability on the part of the regions, tournament chairmen and volunteers and has now resulted in the adoption of a waiver and player registration form. *All players competing in an Ontario Championship will be required to sign both forms, and failure to do so will result in automatic disqualification from the event.* For those players under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must sign.

It is most important for players to realize that this waiver system has been effected at the request of and for the protection of our volunteers. Recent media hype has blown the liability situation out of all proportion, and in so doing has alarmed many people who give of their time freely in order to run our various programmes, including leagues and tournaments. This situation is peculiar to squash but is being experienced in all volunteer-related associations. We ask you to remember the reason behind this waiver form when you are asked to sign. Please bear in mind that without volunteers there would quite simply be no league and very few tournaments.

As the sport governing body it is our responsibility to take the measure possible to ensure both our players and volunteers protected. Hence the mandatory eyeguard ruling and the new waiver and player registration form. We ask you to please support both. ●

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XEROX FALL CLASSIC WINS POPULAR VOTE

BY ANDREW SLATER

The Toronto squash season was grandly kicked off by the Xerox Fall Classic held at The Adelaide Club on the first weekend of October. The \$10,000 U.S. W.P.S.A. tour stop along with the \$3,500 U.S. women's pro tournament, were the feature events of this squash extravaganza's inaugural year. Xerox were intent on supporting players of every calibre and soft ball events in all flights were held. Age categories in both hardball and soft ball made this squash event a well rounded tournament for every squash enthusiast. Supporting venues were required for a tournament of this magnitude and The Cambridge Club, The Fitness Institute, Holiday Fitness and Squash Club, McCaul Squash and Fitness Club and the Squash Academy, enthusiastically supported the concept.

In the early rounds of the men's pro event, the seeds fell like the leaves of autumn. Clive Caldwell, the owner of the host club and the tournament's fifth seed, was dispatched relatively easily by Alex Doucas of Montreal in the first round. It should be emphasized that Caldwell was the finalist the week before in Philadelphia, so for him to suffer a first round loss at his own club displays the increasing depth in the pro ranks. Doucas showed that his win over Caldwell was no fluke by cruising past Alan Grant before bowing out to Ned Edwards.

Sixth seed Brad Desaulniers did not lose his first round match to a racquet-wielding opponent, but to a malfunctioning alarm clock. Brad was defaulted, clearing the way for Pat Richardson to make the quarters with good wins over Gul Khan and Jamie Bentley. The tournament then went according to seeding until the quarter finals, when eighth seeded Juan Mendez defeated



"MR. CONSISTENT", MARK TALBOTT (left) WINS OVER NED EDWARDS.

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fourth seed Todd Binns.

The story of the tournament, however, was the superior play of both Mark Talbott and Ned Edwards. Neither player experienced any difficulty in getting to the final as Talbott lost only one game "en route" and Edwards had a perfect record. Mark made his semi-final match over Juan Mendez appear very "matter of fact" (3-0), despite having gone five tough games with Juan just the week before. Ned showed John Nimick no mercy as he crushed him with surprising ease. The final match-up between off court friends was eagerly anticipated. Mark's newly found aggressiveness seemed to baffle Edwards in the first game and

Mark shot out to a one game lead. Ned's explosive power and crisp shot making enabled him to take a 13-10 lead in the second game, but disaster struck as his previously winning shots found the tin and a 2-0 deficit. The third game witnessed Ned regain his ability to find the open spaces and the nick, bringing with this ability, victory in the third game.

Mark's rock steady concentration was the deciding factor in the fourth and final game. Ned was not allowed to get close, signalling that if anyone was going to beat Mark Talbott this year, he would have to have concentration cast in iron.

The women's event featured a newcomer to the hardball scene,

Heather Wallace. Originally from Scotland, and currently ranked fifth internationally, she is now based in Ottawa. In only her second hardball tournament, Heather defeated the first seed, Nina Porter in the first round.

Heather seemed destined to finish off second seeded Nancy Gengler after a quick first game in the final. Nancy changed her strategy radically to confuse Heather, who was not yet used to the speed of the hardball. Nancy, using a series of hard serves and a good three wall boast, kept Heather confused for the next three games and emerged victorious.

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation was the recipient of a generous donation from the W.P.S.A. and was named the pros' official charity of the year. In turn, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation named the W.P.S.A. tour as its official sport. Ned Edwards and Clive Caldwell, both diabetics, have been instrumental in securing this link to charity.

Tournament director Margaret Boselli, estimated that over 350 players took part in the tournament. Both Margaret and Clive Caldwell are to be congratulated for their efforts in making the inaugural event such a tremendous success. Margaret and Clive are optimistic about doubling this figure next year. This is great news for every category of squash player.

RESULTS

SOFT BALL

Men's Open - Scott Dulmage def. Duncan Stuart 3-0

Men's "B" - Jim Paton def. Clayton Soon 3-0

Men's "C" - Bruce Burnett def. Bob Stock 3-2

Men's "D" - Peter Murphy def. Jeff Wolfman 3-0

Men's Over 35 - Bill MacDonell def. Victor Harding 3-1

Men's Over 40 - Colin Stone def. Steve Moysey 3-0

Men's Over 50 - Barry F. Patrick def. Jim Adam 3-0

Women's Open - Wendy Glatner def. Ann Dowhaniuk 3-0

Women's "B" - Janet L. [unclear] def. Barb Romeke 3-0

Women's "C" - Theresa Grant def. Shelley MacDonell 3-0

Women's "D" - Lynn [unclear] def. Bonnie Edwards 3-2

HARDBALL

Men's Over 40 - Peter [unclear] def. Rick Trumble 3-0

Men's Over 50 - Bill [unclear] def. Ron Aldridge 3-0

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UNITED STATES EVENS THE SCORE IN LOEWS CUP

BY CHRISTIAN ENDEMANN

The fourth annual Loews Cup team squash competition held in Toronto in mid-September, pitted Canada's top hardball players against the best from the United States. While Canada held a 2-1 edge in the series, the Americans were overwhelming favourites on paper and managed to

even the series at two wins apiece by prevailing 4-1 after some fiercely fought matches.

The age and W.P.S.A. ranking discrepancies between the two teams were such that Gord Anderson, Canada's team captain, remarked that in the home side's case, the

numbers in both categories were virtually identical!

Canada won the opening match of the two-day tie in a contest in which sibling rivalry provided almost as much drama as the spectacular rallies. Aziz Khan of Toronto, 35, outlasted his younger brother Charlie, 33, a resident of St. Louis, 15-8, 15-11, 10-15, 15-11. The two veterans, ranked 19 and 12 respectively, had not played each other in competition for over eight years, but any initial apprehension about the circumstances was soon dispelled as both were immediately on the attack with a diversified repertoire of drop shots, volleys and angled drives that were executed with skill and speed.

In the second encounter, Ned Edwards (2), of New York, outmanoeuvred Todd Binns (9), of Toronto, 15-12, 14-16, 15-4, 15-9. Edwards, 29, was able to blunt the power of Binns, also 29, by utilizing greater variation and deception, frequently causing the Canadian to lose patience and commit unforced errors.

The pivotal match for Canada was contested by the legendary 42-year-old Sharif Khan of Toronto, and 22-year-old Harvard graduate student David Boyum. Khan, a 12-time North American Open champion, seemingly inspired by the energetic performance of his younger brothers, got off to a quick start with his typical squashbuckling style, lunging and darting as he volleyed and slashed winners with an agility and intensity that belied his years. Sharif was clearly trying to score a quick knockout blow over his quicker and fitter opponent. After catching the first game in a tiebreaker, Khan was poised to grasp the lead as well, but could not capitalize on three game points and eventually lost it. The wily strategist, however, was gradually worn down by the W.P.S.A.'s rookie of the year in four riveting games, 15-18, 18-15, 15-9, 15-9.

Boyum spoke glowingly of Sharif Khan's effort. "He is still capable of beating top players with his aggressiveness and deception. Despite his age, he plays with remarkable cunning, even if his physical resources are somewhat diminished. Had he won our match, he would have given Canada a great psychological lift for its remaining two matches and perhaps changed the course of the final outcome."

But the United States realized it was now on the verge of victory and



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TEAM U.S.: (L to R) DAVID BOYUM, JOHN NIMICK, LOEWS REPRESENTATIVES: ALAN ROSE, ANDRE BELAND; NED EDWARDS AND MARK TALBOTT.

PHOTO BY HUGH MC CLEAN

John Nimick of Philadelphia, pounced on an obviously sub-par (knee injury) Brad Desaulniers of Mon-

tréal, 24, who succumbed to the power of his 26-year-old opponent, 15-7, 15-9, 15-8.

The closeness of the competition, if not the final score, was reflected in the final match which was anything but the expected formality. Mark Talbott of Boston, 26, and the W.P.S.A.'s top ranked player, was stretched to the limit by another cagey match-tough campaigner, Toronto's Clive Caldwell who, at 35, is still tenacious and trim. Currently languishing at number 8 in the rankings after occupying the top rung for many years in his prime, Caldwell still gives no quarter to the odds or stamina of his more active opponents. His patience and length of stroke are still formidable weapons but the determination of Talbott was considerable, and he eventually endured 11-15, 15-12, 15-11, 18-17.

In addition to being a crowd-pleaser because of the quality of play and partisan passion that can be aroused by international competition, the team format is also one enjoyed immensely by the participants who for the rest of the season play as individuals with the camaraderie and spirit that characterize this unique annual encounter. The Loews Cup moves to the United States next year for its fifth anniversary. ●

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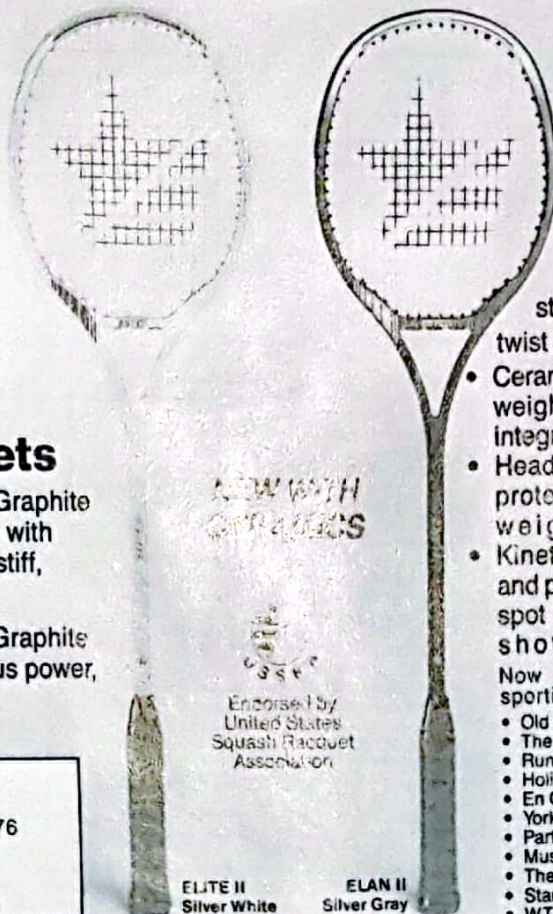
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England's Le Moignan Captures Canadian Open Crown

BY ALAN SMITH

The biggest surprise of this year's Smirnoff Canadian Women's Open Squash Championships was the lack of surprises and the decisiveness of most of the results. With over half of the top 20 players in Canada in attendance, including Gail Pimm (#1) and Nancy Cranbury (#4), plus four top international players headed by Martine LeMoignan (2nd in the world) and Heather Wallace (5th), it appeared that there would be a number of close, exciting matches once players reached their appropriate level. In general, it was not to be, and the immense disparity in levels of play between even such a select group of players was clearly demonstrated.

With a total draw of 23, the top eight seeds were given a bye, while the rest battled for the opportunity of challenging the favourites on day two. In first round play at the Queensview Athletic Club, it became apparent that some players were not yet fully prepared this season for the level of play in this very strong draw, while others had spent the summer working hard on their game. However, the reward of a first-round win was the dubious distinction of getting soundly thrashed by one of the seeds with only Lynne Noel (Ottawa) taking a game in defeat against a less than sharp Ann Thompson (now living in Montreal, seeded 8th). None of the remaining matches lasted more than 30 minutes.

With play down to the eight seeds on Friday evening, it was expected that the competition would become more intense and exciting. Unfortunately, the top four seeds were again well ahead of the remainder. Top seed Martine LeMoignan of England, disposed of Thompson in less than 20 minutes for the loss of just one point. Heather Wallace from Scotland, but just recently moved to Ottawa to become a resident professional at the Queensview Club, was equally unkind to

Nina Porter of the U.S. Third seed Babette Hoogendoorn (Netherlands), was too quick for Carla Jensen (Regina), and after a fairly competitive first game, which she won 9-6, Hoogendoorn took complete control and won in three games in just over 30 minutes. In the best match of the round, Nancy Cranbury, the new professional at the Rideau Tennis & Squash Club in Ottawa, took advantage of a brief lapse in concentration by top Canadian, Pimm (Toronto), to take the third game 9-6, but was only able to chalk up a total of two points in the remaining three, despite some hard fought rallies.

LeMoignan continued to amaze the crowd in the semi-finals with her

unorthodox style and well-disguised boasts as she mastered Pimm 9/5, 9/2, 9/3. Pimm was frequently left flat-footed when completely fooled by LeMoignan's deception, but put up a valiant struggle and scored more points than other opponents. Wallace was only in trouble briefly against Hoogendoorn, ranked 21st in the world, when after winning the first game 9-0 and surging to an 8-0 lead in the second, Hoogendoorn pulled back to 9-6. However, it was too little, too late, and shortly after the host club fans were able to cheer their new professional as she gained a position in the final.

The final looked to be a classic battle between the 2nd and 5th ranked players in the world -

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BESSO UPSETS WEITHERS IN MARITIME SQUASH CHALLENGE

BY HEIDI ROSE

LeMoignan, the tall, left-handed master of the boast and effortless court movement, against the more deliberate, drop and drive style of Wallace. The first game lived up to all expectations with Wallace pulling ahead early and picking up most of LeMoignan's boasts. However, while LeMoignan seemed to be gliding effortlessly around court, Wallace was being stretched constantly and, after being tied at 7-7, a questionable stroke call against Wallace seemed to upset her and the game eventually went to LeMoignan 9-7 on a perfect boast, just barely clearing the tin, after some 15 minutes of excellent squash. As the second game began it was apparent that while LeMoignan was confident and on her game, Wallace was suffering the effects of lack of activity and competition over the summer. LeMoignan took complete control and had Wallace completely fooled again and again, while making very few mistakes herself - excellent length, tight drops and that amazing boast - left Wallace shaking her head. In just 30 minutes it was over with LeMoignan retaining her Canadian Open title 9-7, 9-0, 9-0 and taking home the first prize of \$2,360. ●

Sneakers Fitness Club in Moncton, New Brunswick, was the scene of the first Canadian Pacific Squash Challenge on October 3-5, a brand new concept of squash in the Maritimes. Eight invited top players from Ontario were pitted against eight of the best from the Maritimes. The Ontario contingent was made up of Max Weithers, Mike Way, Joe Besso, Dennis Goodfellow, Gene Duval, Fred Reid, Steve Rowe and Jan Preiditis. The Maritimers, who had earned their spots in a previous playoff in September, consisted of Steve Axford, Dave Hublely and Gerry Gibson from Nova Scotia, Gordon Lawlor and Bruce Cameron from Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick players Robert

Black, John Doiron and John MacLennan.

After an oyster and steamed mussels reception on Thursday, play started Friday morning in four round robins among the 16 challengers, which kept spectators spellbound. Rarely before had they seen such high calibre of squash in the Atlantic provinces. By the evening, the eight invited players had come out on top of their respective groups, and were entered in an eight player challenge draw. The remaining Maritime players were slotted into the regular A draw of the Open tournament, which had attracted 102 entries in all divisions.

Tournament chairman Ian Ferguson stated in an interview: "This event, with the generous sponsorship of Canadian Pacific Airlines and Air Atlantic, will definitely be the catalyst to a wider acceptance of squash in the Atlantic region. The challenge will showcase the sport for juniors, and will provide an incentive to our top players to train year round to compete in this annual event."

But it wasn't all just about playing squash. Sneakers Fitness Club manager Tony Pacheco, and a very enthusiastic tournament committee were determined to show off Maritime hospitality at its best. After the first round matches had finished on Friday night, entertainers Lambert & James, flown in specially by Canadian Pacific Airlines from Newfoundland, came to the occasion by providing first class dining entertainment to all at the gathering.

Saturday saw serious competition play throughout the day in all divisions, and was highlighted by an excellent banquet for 135 players followed by disco dancing in the early morning hours.

On Sunday, a packed gallery of spectators watched in awe the challenge match between favourite Max Weithers and number one seed Joe Besso. Max had previously defeated Jan Preiditis 3-0 in the

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ALL SMILES FROM MAX WEITHERS AND JOE BESSO.

quarter final, and Fred Reid 3-0 in the semi final; Joe had defeated Dennis Goodfellow 3-0, and Mike Way 3-0.

Their first game, 25 minutes in length, consisted of long rallies and frequent service changes. Besso eventually took the lead and maintained it to a 9-5 win. He again took an early lead in the second game. Weithers appeared very tentative in his play and Besso took advantage of the situation, allowed his opponent only three service breaks, and took the game 9-1. The third game reverted back to long rallies. Weithers seemed to have regained his confidence and was leading 6-3, but Besso's superb dropshots, especially to the right hand front corner, proved to be the winning formula. He wrapped up the 55 minute long match 9-6 in the third, to win the challenge championship and a cheque for \$625.00. Weithers received \$440.00. Third place was taken by Fred Reid, fourth place by Mike Way.

In the open tournament, Nova Scotia players monopolized the men's A and B divisions. Steve Axford of Halifax, defeated Dave Hubley, Halifax, 3-2, in a very close match which lasted well over an hour, to win the men's A championship title; Grant Dunn of Fredericton won the consolation. The men's B title went to Harvey Bishop, Halifax, in a 3-1 win over Brian Knight; consolation winner was Marc Arsenault, Moncton.

Moncton player Paul Couturier played an excellent match against Ron Paris, New Glasgow, defeating him 3-1 in the men's C final; consolation winner was Tom Nowlan, Halifax. The men's D division was

won by Barry Ward, Moncton, 3-0 over club mate Gerry Caron; consolation winner was Kent Johnson, Nova Scotia.

In the ladies A round robins, Melinda Hubley, Halifax, defeated Louise Waters, Halifax, 3-1 for the ladies championship title. Donna Axford, Halifax, came in third place. The ladies B winner was Amey Harding, Toronto; she defeated her old time rival Heide Rose, Moncton, 3-1; Sherry LeClair, Fredericton, won the consolation. Karen Aske, Moncton, scored a 3-0 upset over Sharleen Piotto, Ottawa, for the D title; consolation winner was Kate Shefford, Moncton. The under 16 junior division was won by Lorne Dagenais, Halifax, over Tom Makin, Halifax; Geoff Hurst of Halifax was the consolation winner. ●

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This luxurious club houses eight racquetball courts, four international squash courts, four indoor tennis courts and five outdoor tennis courts. The design is both beautiful and spacious. Professional instruction by the resident pro, Mike Ratcliffe, as well as house leagues, round robins and in-house tournaments are offered to fulfill the competitive needs of the members. Being members of Squash Ontario and Tennis Ontario, the club will be hosting several open and provincial tournaments as well.

On the upper floor of the club is a large 3,200 square foot gym which contains a variety of athletic equipment, computer bikes, rowing machines and sun tanning beds. Daily aerobic classes are also offered at various levels and times during the day. Members of the club receive a fitness assessment and individual program all set up by a registered fitness appraiser.

The club's locker room facilities include a sauna, whirlpools with overhead skylights, showers and a towel service. Also, there are a large number of lockers available for private or day use.

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An extensive social calendar including monthly parties helps to bring the members of various sports together to meet in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Having young children is never a problem for members who wish to participate in the club's night time activities, as the club offers a babysitting service in its nursery.

An excellent combination of fun and competition has resulted in the creation of a very relaxed atmosphere under which the members can come and enjoy their leisure time. ●

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