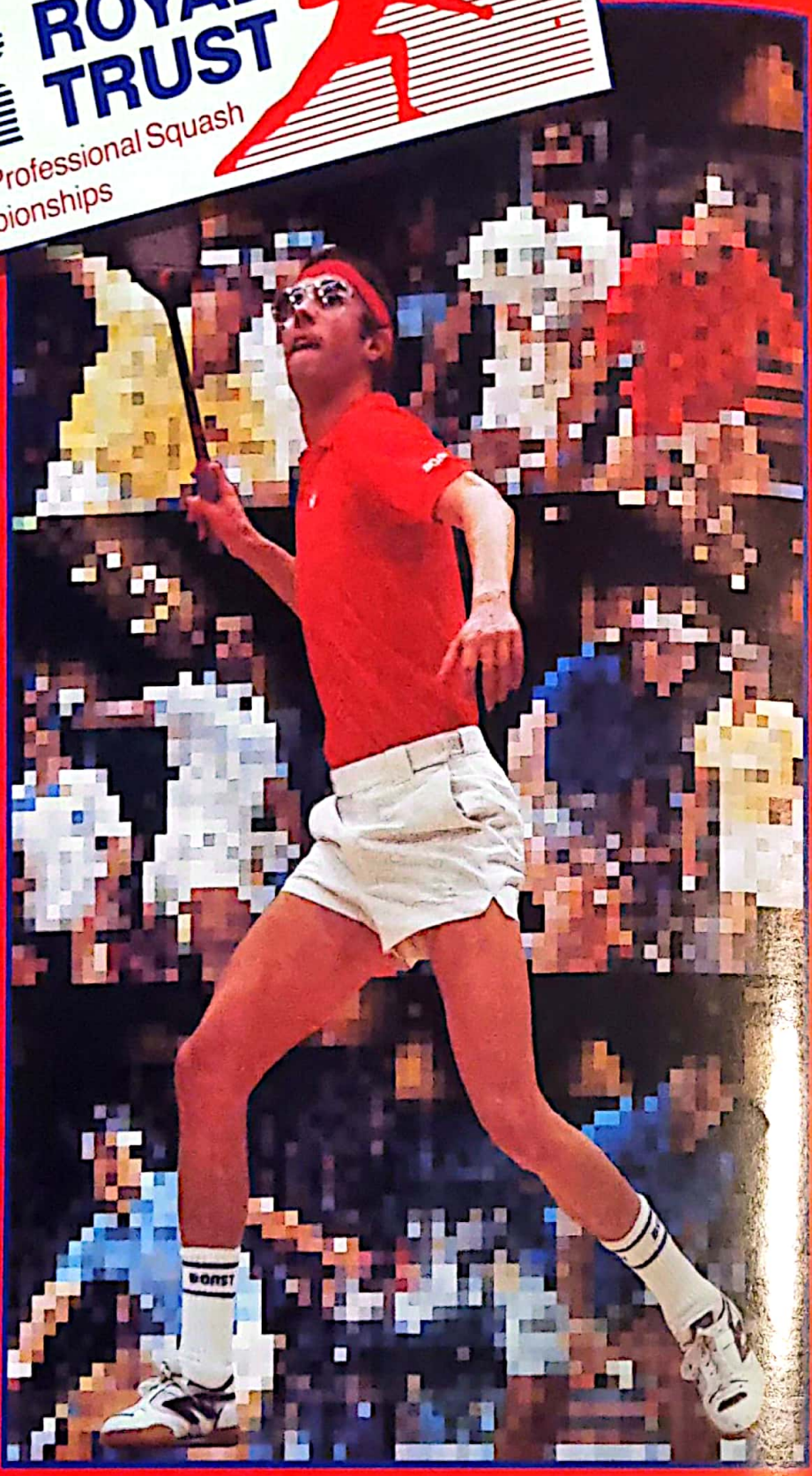


ROYAL TRUST
World Professional Squash
Championships



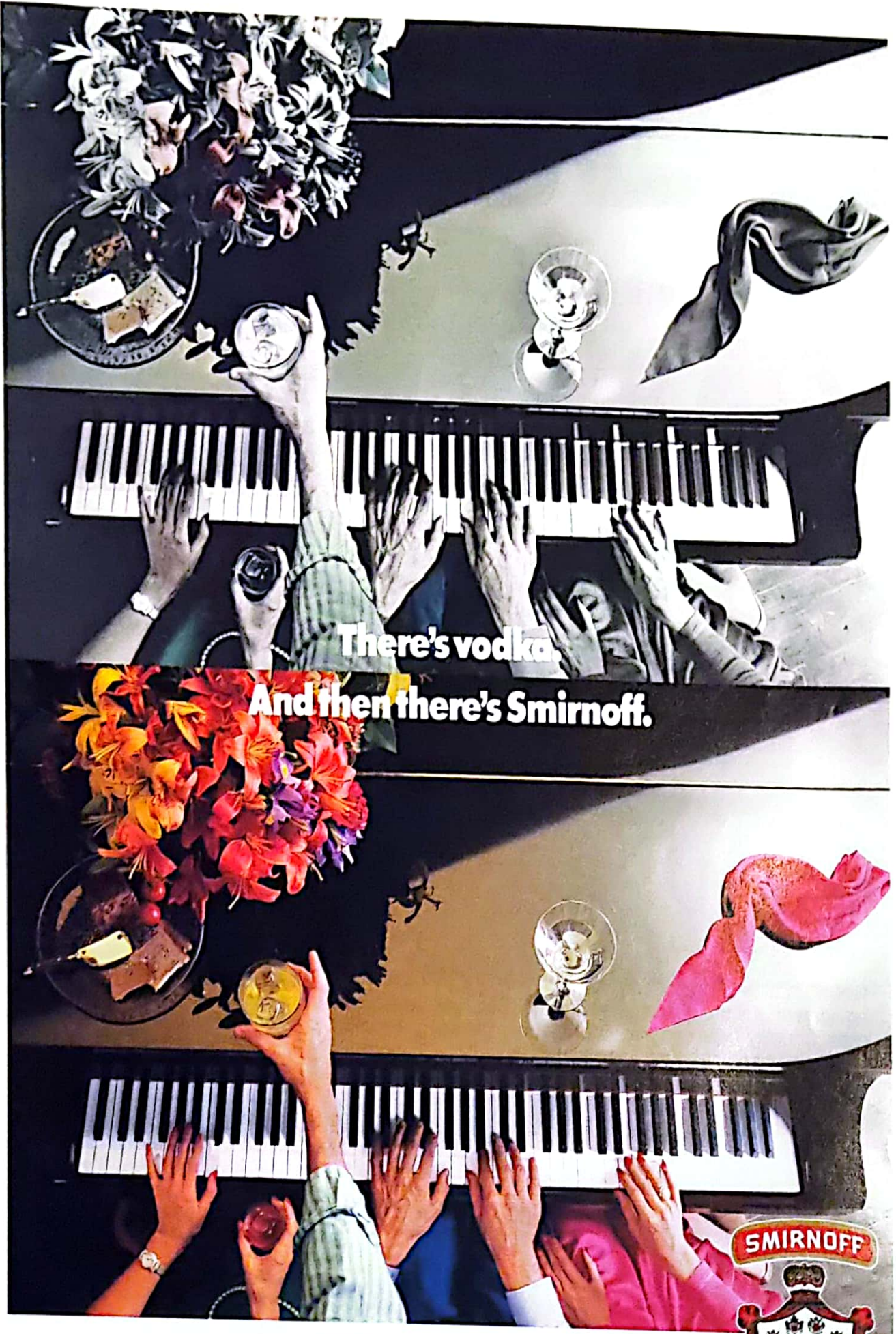
January 7-11, 1988, Grand Ballroom, Sheraton Centre, Toronto



\$70,000 Prize Money

Tickets (416) 872-BASS or WPSA (416) 869-3499





There's vodka.

And then there's Smirnoff.

Friends are worth it.



BAUER®



you're always on your game!

WHAT ALL SPORTING ENTHUSIASTS HAVE IN COMMON. The need for high performance equipment. It's the essential advantage. Because, what you buy is based on what you do. You expect quality footwear: treads or blades. You want durability, comfort and support. Selection, value, fit — and style are important too!



SQUASH SHOES

Men and women expect great traction and solid support in an indoor court shoe. Bauer Squash Shoes feature a dependable split-shell gum rubber outsole with the added plus of EVA cushioning wedges. Designed to take the stress of quick turns, stops and starts. Everything you need, all you want. Best in all round performance!

Sherry E. Funston
Managing Editor

Jan Atkinson
Editor

John Boynton
President, Squash Ontario

Linda Stewart
Don Douglas
Dan Beechey
Craig Hall
Directors, Squash Ontario

Roger Eady
Prof. John R. Fairs
Senior Contributing Editors

Linda Henderson
Administrative Assistant

Judy Rash
Ministry of Tourism
and Recreation Consultant
Better Creative Service Limited
Design and Composition

Craig Hanley
Art Direction

Bowne of Canada
Printer

Jerry C. Hobbs
Photography

Harry J. Allen Jr.
Marketing & Sales - for Fresh Ideas
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. 1987

VOL. II, NO. 5

CONTENTS

6
EDITORIAL
"Equal Opportunity"

8
FEATURE
*Royal Trust
W.P.S.A. Championships*



20
INSTRUCTION
"Green Light" Squash

26
INTERNATIONAL SCENE
Rules Experimentation

28
CLUB FOCUS
Flagship Mayfair

AT WHAT PRICE EQUALITY?

During the '60s and '70s, one could not pick up a newspaper or listen to the radio without hearing that famous phrase, "Equal Opportunity". It was bandied about like a ping pong ball - its most outspoken proponents were high-powered newspaper and magazine columnists who carried the campaign banner and waved it high. No intelligent person disputed the fact that inequalities existed and had to be addressed and, in retrospect, a number of wrongs have now been righted. But in essence, the immediate crisis has passed - women have won many battles and, while acknowledging that there is still far to go, it is perhaps wise to stand back, take a deep breath and pause before treading into the unknown. But, the pause that refreshes is not for some of the feminists who have cast their eyes to new fields to conquer. One cannot help but wonder if that two-headed monster called 'equality' is not about to wreak havoc if allowed to stride unfettered through baseball diamonds, soccer fields, hockey rinks and yes, even squash courts!

Leagues and tournaments are an intricate part of the squash community. They are designed to encourage competition for those wishing to hone their skills and who thrive on the challenge. In most areas of Ontario, men's and women's leagues run and there are almost as many women's tournaments as there are men's. But lately, there has been some consternation that women are entering teams in men's league. These women cite the fact that they need the better competition and don't feel they are getting that by competing against other women. Therein lies the crux of the matter.

If one looks back to the early days of women's squash, one would find familiar names in tournament draws and league play. Names such as Penny Glover, Susan Swift, Eleanor O'Gorman and a number of others. In many cases, they were the draw for the Ontario Closed and knew as they entered each tournament, just who they would

be facing. They had little significant competition except amongst themselves but they were committed to seeing the game of squash grow for women and so, rather than play in men's tournaments or enter men's leagues, continued to play against other women. Time, as it always does, took its toll, and new and younger players began coming through the ranks. It would have been very easy for these veterans to retire from active competition but they didn't. If they had, these younger players would have had no yardstick by which to measure their game and consequently, growth of women's squash would have been stifled.

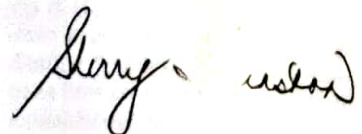
... a narrow, selfish and insulated view of things.

Perhaps the most significant difference between the new generation and the old is the respect with which the veterans treat the game. They recognize that they gained much from squash and quite willingly, gave something back. In fact, most of them continue to do so. In modern day terms, it's called "paying ones dues". Many of the better players in the game today have yet to learn this lesson. That attitude could be attributed to the inexperience of youth or possibly, to a narrow, selfish and insulated view of things. These women will argue that they should have equal

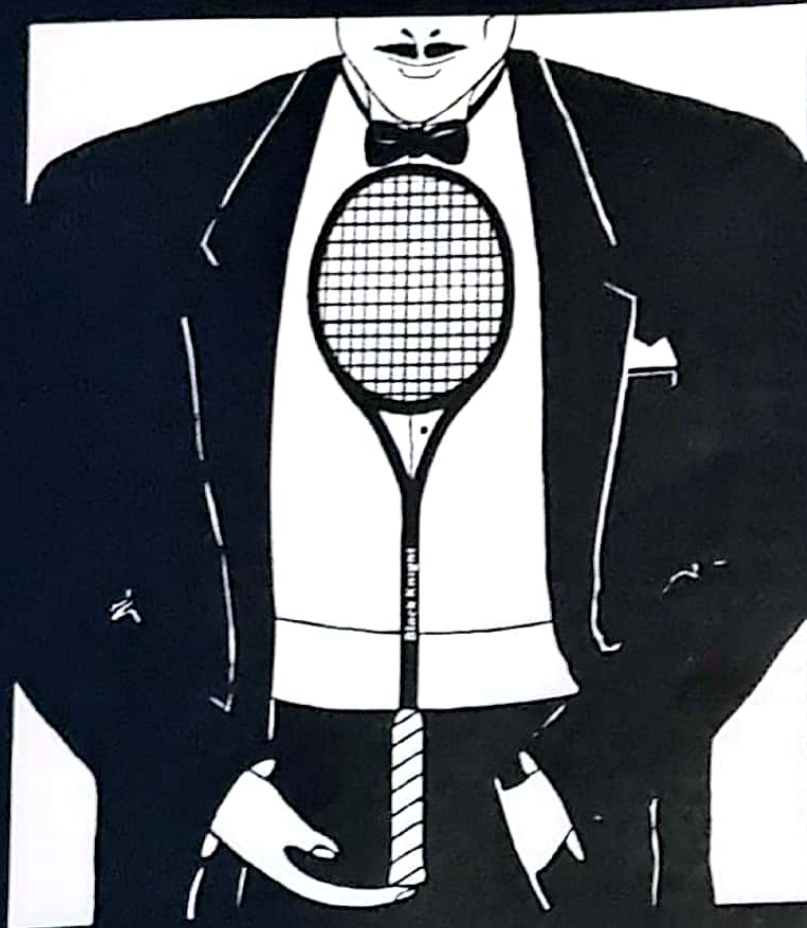
opportunity to compete and no one will dispute that point. What they don't acknowledge, is that they also owe something to the game and that is to support the development and infrastructure which, in many cases, were instrumental in getting them to where they are now. Is it heresy to ask where women wishing to play in men's tournaments or league, also support the women's side? Is it trampling the Human Rights Code to expect these players to act as leaders of their sport by helping those coming up the ladder? Is it a travesty to say to these players, "If you want to play men's league, you must also support the women's league?" Do these conditions seem too demanding or unfair? Certainly not!

Even the government is getting into the act with both the Federal and Provincial sport ministries implementing equality in sport policies. And no one questions the fact that, in some sports, inequalities do exist, certainly in terms of facilities. Even in squash we have instances where university men's teams train on the international courts while the women are relegated to North American courts. Unfair, yes, but not insolvable. The ministries should be putting dollars behind full scale education programmes aimed at architects and planners of facilities, ensuring that full facilities are available. That is where their dollars can do the most good and have the most dramatic effect.

Full equality may be nirvana for some but, with it, comes a price and some very exacting equalities. If it is at the expense of the development of the game then perhaps the cost is too high. Women may have come a long way but it behooves them to carefully reconnoiter the ground ahead — it could be fraught with dangers.



A black tie affair...



Black Knight®

All racquets guaranteed for 45 days





GREAT BEGINNINGS FOR 1988 SQUASH RETURNS TO THE GRAND BALLROOM

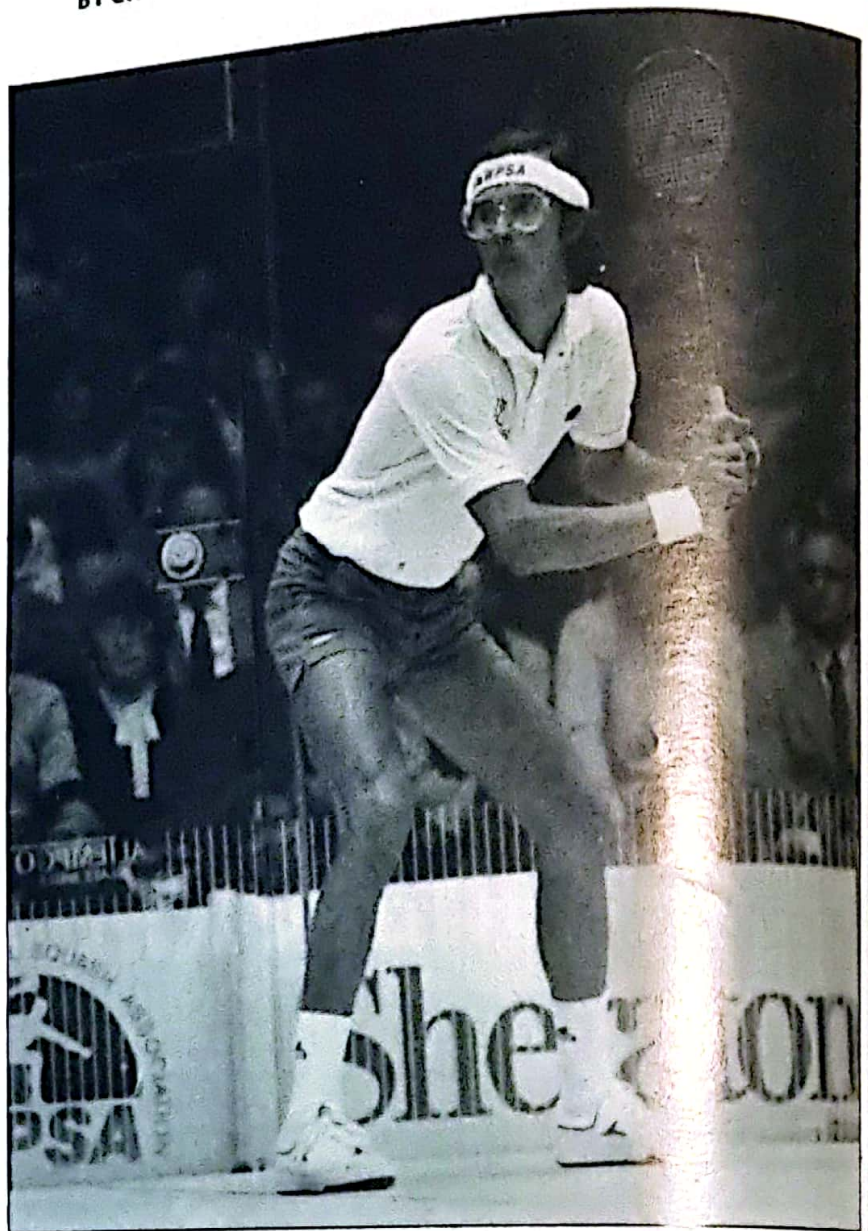
BY CHARLES D. MCGREGOR

There is much that can be said about the month of January in Toronto — most of it bad.

The Christmas and New Year's Eve festivities and celebrations are behind us. The bills are ahead, as is snow and sleet, cold winds and runny noses. Worse — for those of us whose overindulgence in holiday feasting produced excess poundage, the exercise treadmill beckons.

But forget that. Look instead to the World Professional Squash Association tour which swings back into action just one week into the month with the \$70,000 Royal Trust W.P.S.A. Championships. Royal Trust made its debut on the tour in 1987 and it would have been difficult to script a more exciting beginning to anything. Record crowds thronged to the Sheraton Centre to see some of the best competitive squash of the year.

The six world championships to be decided, January 6th through 11th — men's and women's professional, teaching professionals, veterans and seniors professionals and junior men's — promise more of the same. Pro Tour Director, Melissa Winstanley, was filled with enthusiasm early in the new season as she surveyed the results of the first three events. The start of the year featured two victories by number one ranked Mark Talbott, but five different players had reached the finals. "Mark won twice — in Philadelphia, where he beat Mario Sanchez in the final and in Cleveland where he beat Clive Caldwell," she said. "But the first tour event of the year, the Xerox Fall Classic, John Nimick beat him in the semi-finals only to lose in the final to Ned Edwards."



Mark Talbott is off to a fast start in maintaining his number one position.

What this says is, that while Mark is still the man to beat, given his ranking and the fact that he's been number one

for the past five years, there will be no free passes issued by other members of the professional squash elite he will

meet on court this year and next. Talbott, a native of Ohio who now makes his home in Barrington, Rhode Island, is everything a champion should be — possessor of a powerful desire and instinct to win whilst on court; unfailingly polite and co-operative off court. In these characteristics he is typical of those who crowd the top of the rankings and who have done so much to aid the sport as it strives to steal space away from the hockey/baseball/football triumvirate which dominates the North American media.

Surely a tour which can offer prize money totalling over \$500,000 can make inroads in the media. A great deal of effort is going into this. It can be frustrating, but there is a dedication to succeed in this, every bit as much dedication as there is to win on court. Certainly among the top five or six players in the men's rankings there is enough charisma and competitive excitement to warrant regular exposure in the media.

New Yorker, Ned Edwards, ranked second, is probably the best bet to beat Talbott to the number one spot this year. Ned sustained a severe back injury last season but appears to have made a complete recovery.

Losing finalist in last January's Royal Trust W.P.S.A. Championship is number three, John Nimick. John is another strong threat at all times, but particularly so this season as he comes off his best year in the five he has been on the pro tour.

There are three Canadians in this group — Todd Binns and Clive Caldwell of Toronto and Alex Doucas of Montreal, none of whom can be counted out at any time. Binns in fact, playing the squash of his life, was an agonizing five game, tiebreak loser to Nimick in last year's Royal Trust Championships, after having eliminated second seeded Ned Edwards the previous day.

And when the elegant and courtly Mario Sanchez, Mexico's number one player, is included in the draw yet another potential winner's name goes on the board.

Talbott accepts all of this with the equanimity of a confident champion, but without making the mistake of underestimating any one of them — or any of a number of others whose position on the rankings belies their skill and potential ability to put the leader in his place on occasion.

The inaugural Royal Trust event last January provided a magnificent example of how a tournament of this stature should be staged. The W.P.S.A.'s three-glass-wall tour court was the jewel in the centrepiece of the be-



Will Nancy Gengler (right) be able to repeat her historic win over Alicia McConnell?

flagged and decorated Grand Ballroom at the Sheraton Centre. The performances of the players surrounded by tiers of spectators, numbering over a thousand for the final, were absolutely of cham-

pionship calibre.

Let's have the same again in 1988. We certainly have all of the necessary ingredients. ●

Protect your investment . . .

Premium Performance Court Systems from Playcon



Official Court Contractors

- WPSA Championships
- McGuinness World Open

Complete new club construction, court conversions, court repairs — featuring **FIBERESIN** wall & ceiling systems (over 8000 courts worldwide); fully engineered **Glass Systems; Lighting Packages; Hardwood Flooring; Court Framing**
Get the complete story today!

Playcon

Recreational Equipment Limited

275 Arnold Street, Kitchener,
Ontario N2H 6E8
(519) 743-8132
TELEX-Playcon 06955182

WREN AND COLEMAN CAPTURE ONTARIO CLOSED TITLES

BY LARRY CHRISTIANSEN

On the weekend of October 16th to 18th, Northfield-Doon Racquet Club in Kitchener had the pleasure of hosting the Ontario Closed Championships. Although a number of the province's top players were not available to play, the standard was very high. The draws consisted of 32 men and 8 ladies, very good quality if not quantity.

The first round of the men's draw saw many unexpectedly great matches with the highlight being Northfield's Danny Marsh extending top seed John Frederick for one hour and forty-five minutes and a 10-9 in the fifth score.

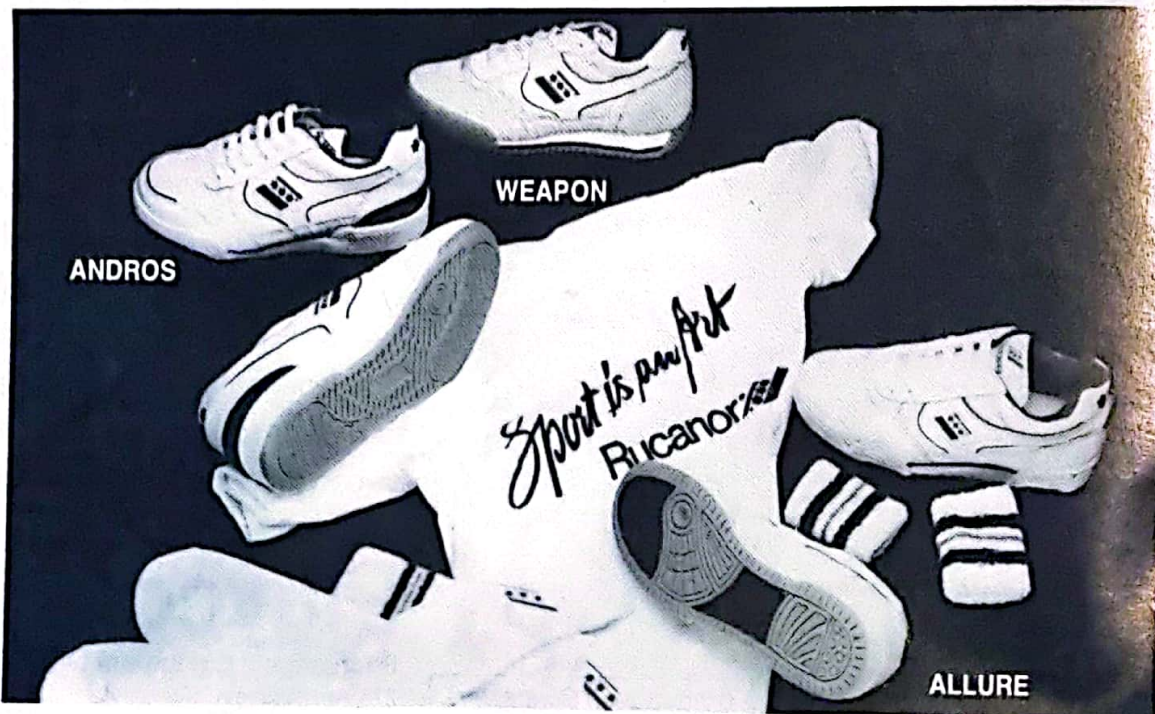


Despite a virus, Steve Wren (left) was able to produce a weekend of championship squash.

John was extended again for one hour and thirty minutes on Saturday morning by University of Waterloo's Jamie

Allan. Frederick was subsequently defeated that afternoon by Grant Foy. On the other side of the draw, Duncan

Over 30 years of European Technology that can give you that Edge



Rucanor  **SPORT**

Ask For Rucanor
at your favorite
sport shop.



Lori Coleman receives prizes and congratulations from tournament director, Larry Christiansen.

Stuart had a little easier time of it until meeting Keith Durling of Hamilton in the semis, losing in a tough five game

match.

Steve Wren (seeded fourth), coming off a big win at the Xerox Fall Classic

two weeks previously, played great squash all weekend despite a virus. Steve knocked off Grant Foy in the semis. The hard weekend of squash took its toll on Durling and he was dispatched fairly quickly by a determined Wren.

The ladies provided us with some very entertaining squash and went pretty well according to the seeding. The surprise of the draw was Shelley Harvey getting by Ruth Castellino in five games and then defeating Wendy Wontner in three straight games in the semi-final. Lori Coleman showed why she deserved the top seeding and went through the entire weekend only losing one game to Shelley Harvey in the preliminary round and proving much too strong, winning 3-0 in the final.

The participants all seemed to enjoy the weekend as much on the court as off. Since it was the last weekend of Oktoberfest in Kitchener, many players took advantage of the theme meal at the club Saturday and then hit some of the many festival halls in the area. Although a few straggled in a few minutes late for the early morning matches, all went well thanks to the help of Norma Graham and Bill Warren and the rest of the club's volunteers. We look forward to hosting this type of event in the future. ●

arc

RACQUETS

- ACCURACY
- RELIABILITY
- CONSISTENCY

THE RACQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE.
BE A PART OF IT.

HIGH TECH
FOOT EQUIPMENT
FOR THE ATHLETE
WHO WANTS MORE THAN
JUST A SPORTS SOCK

ÉQUIPEMENT DE POINTE
POUR L'ATHLÈTE
QUI DÉSIRE PLUS QU'UNE
SIMPLE CHAUSSETTE DE SPORT

BALANCE OF POWER

Kevlar/Graphite frame with distributed zones of stiffness for maximum torsional resistance, powerful shots and optimum shock absorption.

Unique adjustable Power Weights control the moment of inertia for improved stroke production and racket stability.

Integrated mass in geometric build-up increases kinetic build-up for maximum power.

PC-4: SCIENCE AT WORK FOR YOU



Only Donnay Pro Cynetic-4 allows you to choose the weight/balance combination that suits your game!

Available in two models:
PC-4 with adjustable weights
PC-1 with integrated weights



Mark Falbot
North American No. 1

TAKE CONTROL

TAKE **DON
NAY**

CANADIAN STRUNG



CEREBRAL SQUASH

PUTTING SOME THOUGHT INTO YOUR GAME

BY GERRY SHUGAR

There's the ball. Sitting up, fat, waiting for you to make that decisive shot. You step into it, swing boldly, and CRASH, you hit the ball solidly into the tin! Hashim Khan says, "A good squash player who hit tin like a carpenter who hit thumb with hammer." Yes, the unforced error is a self-inflicted injury, an unnecessarily lost point. But what else is it? It's also a rally you might have won. So it's really often two points lost. But it's more than that. It gives aid and comfort to the enemy. Instead of running your opponent, working him hard, keeping the fitness threat alive, making him feel just a little over-anxious to finish the rally and therefore willing to take an excessive risk, it's you that has bailed out. You are sending him a reassuring message, "Just hang tough and I'm going to hand it to you on a platter." He is encouraged to play longer, harder rallies because you've told him that if he does, you may very well go on shooting yourself in the foot.

What about you? What does an unforced error do to you? That depends on your temperament. You may feel you have to shoot again, probably unwisely, to prove that the last mistake was just an accident, and so you begin to dig yourself a hole. Or you may feel the gnawing worm of self-doubt and desperation that robs you of your initiative and undermines your physical fluidity. And so your game becomes tentative and vulnerable.

What should you do? The good player has prepared himself in advance for anything that might happen in a crucial match. And you should be prepared for the time when your accuracy deserts you and the tin becomes a malignant magnet. As a young table tennis player, I was repeatedly taught, "No Unforced Errors." Much later, I tried to apply this to squash. Whether I was playing a friendly or a tournament, my limit was three unforced errors a

game. Once that quota was used up, I had to impose the discipline of playing risk-free squash, retrieving, hitting the ball hard, keeping the ball on the walls and trying to beat my opponent deep, rather than short, so as to avoid the tin. How can you develop your deep game? You should practice hitting the deep crosscourt into the sidewall nick. Work on the deep drive to perfect length. Try playing a whole match against a friend without ever going short. Almost no chance of an unforced error. (Notice how it puts pressure on his fitness, forcing him to shoot to get out of a rally.) This is not the only way to play squash, but it is an approach you should have tucked away for when you need it.

Maybe you've experienced it, maybe you've imposed it on others. I've seen it over and over again. When one player refuses to make unforced errors and retrieves determinedly, his opponent begins to feel a sense of mounting desperation. He starts hitting the ball tighter and tighter, flirting with the tin and disaster. He senses that a rally will end only if he can hit an outright winner. And he hits the tin. You can put an opponent under enormous pressure with very unspectacular squash by taking the unforced errors out of your game (which almost magically seems to introduce them into your opponent's game).

I've heard of some coaches who make a player do ten pushups whenever he makes an unforced error. I suppose that has the desired effect, but it breaks the rhythm of play and it obviously can't be applied in game situations. Better to impose discipline on yourself, and change your game as soon as you reach your quota. You soon will begin to feel pleased with every game and every match that you keep error free.

When I had been playing squash for about three years, I came under the tutelage of the coach at York University in Toronto, Bill Noyes. Bill taught me that there was another kind of unforced

error. And anyone who wanted to be an outstanding player had to be able to recognize and eliminate it from his game. He taught me that a loose ball was an unforced error. The boast you hit too hard that comes out fat and sets your opponent up in the front of the court where he can punish you. The crosscourt drive that's overhit and comes out wide off the back wall so your opponent can back you out of position and leave you flatfooted and embarrassed as he executes his choice of any number of masterful winning shots. This kind of unforced error should make the good player wince just as much as the more obvious one that he hits into the tin. It requires a great deal of discipline and an ability to observe the match while you are in the middle of the heavy going, to monitor these loose ball errors and to correct them. But the rewards are enormous. I can't begin to tell you how satisfying it is to walk off the court and have my opponent say, "Gerry, I don't know how you did it, but you didn't give me a single ball that I could hit all day long. I always felt stretched, I always felt under pressure. I just couldn't get my game going." No loose balls. Can I say it other ways? Sure. Keep the ball on the wall. Don't overhit. Good length. The walls are your friends. A ball with lots of air around it is a gift. Get the idea?

Now it's up to you. Start next time you play. The beginner and the novice should aim at limiting his unforced errors to three per game. If this means you have to get fitter, get fitter. If it means you need more racquet control, work on it. If it means you have to change your shot selection, do so. The better player has to learn to keep his opponent under pressure with every shot. He must monitor his execution of every shot. He must have a repugnance and a distaste for sloppy, loose ball errors.

Reprinted
NEWS

SQUASH

HOW TO IMPROVE



By Geoffrey Hunt

This video takes you through the game of Squash and shows you how to play like a professional. It's the only video that shows you how to play like a professional. It's the only video that shows you how to play like a professional. It's the only video that shows you how to play like a professional.

Please send me _____ copies at _____ each plus shipping. \$5 Ontario add sales tax 7%. Format VHS or BETA Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____ Cert. Cheque or Money Order

Street _____ Visa + 3% Expiry _____

City _____ Prov _____ Code _____ Card No _____

Jo-Lynn Video 410 Sunset Avenue Windsor Ontario N9B 3B1 Ph 1 519 254 9440

7 Time World and 8 Time British Open Champion

ASK AT YOUR
CLUB FOR COMPLETE
ENTRY DETAILS.



A Tradition.

MARTINI

Challenge
87

ANNUAL SQUASH SERIES

CARLSON COURT
DECEMBER 4-6, 1987

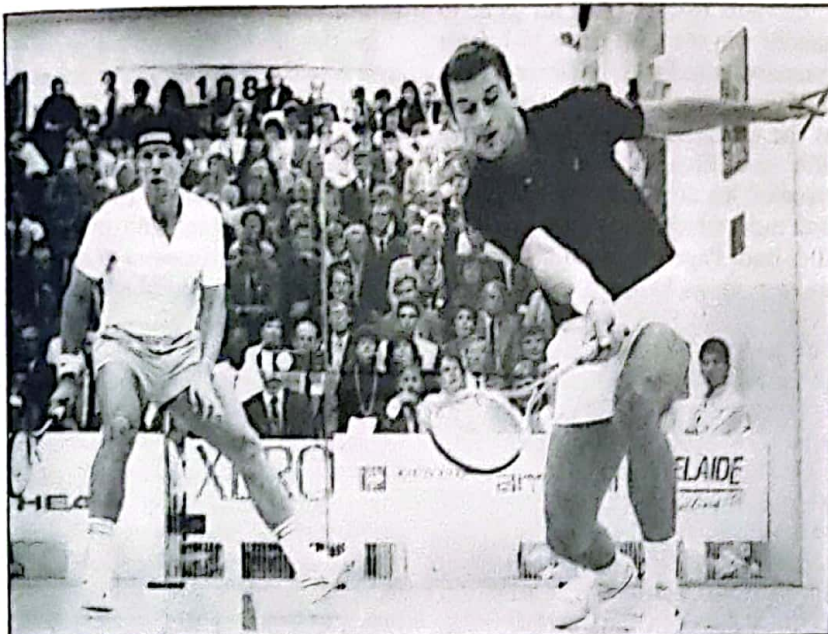


XEROX

FALL CLASSIC

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

BY MICHAEL GEORGY



Ned Edwards (right) maintains his undefeated record against John Nimick.

The 1987-88 North American professional hardball season began on October 1-5 with the \$15,000 Xerox Fall Classic which was held at the popular Adelaide Club in downtown Toronto. The event attracted top W.P.S.A. players along with three hundred amateurs competing in eleven separate divisions. The amateur event, which has doubled in size since last year's tournament, was sponsored by Head. The tournaments also received sponsorship from the Sheraton Centre, Dunlop, Amdahl and Adelaide Printing. The Adelaide Club owner Clive Caldwell's attempt to create a squash smorgasbord was fruitful as squash enthusiasts gathered in good number at both tournaments. A weekend of quality squash was flavoured with a Saturday night party which was a haven for players, friends and party lovers alike.

On the upper half of the pro draw, #1 seed Mark Talbott's initial performances seemed to indicate that he was about to swallow up another field of competitors. In the first two rounds Talbott handily defeated John Lennard and Aziz Khan in straight games. His opponent in the quarter finals was the hard-hitting local south-paw, Todd Binns, who finished last season with a #7 ranking. Binns, fueled by his suppor-



WHEN IT'S TIME FOR YOUR NEXT SQUASH RACQUET,



'MAKE IT A MADISON'

- AN ALL PURPOSE RACQUET -



FOR

CONTROL



FOR

POWER



FOR

DURABILITY



MADISON
SQUASH

Contact your club or store for details.

DOWNTOWN

- SHELLEY SPORTS LTD., Adelaide Club, Toronto — 364-2772
- LAS VEGAS Discount Golf & Tennis 2 Queen St. W. Toronto — 597-0400
- MCCAUL SQUASH & FITNESS CENTRE, 21 McCaul St., Toronto — 979-1422
- ROBERT ANDREWS FITNESS CENTRE, 27 Lower Jarvis, Toronto — 362-1519

EAST

- RUNNING FREE, 2633 Lawrence Ave. East, Scarborough — 755-3781

WEST

- HIGH PARK RACQUET & SKI CENTRE, 2120 Bloor St. West, Toronto — 766-6757
- CARLSON COURT, 10 Carlson Court, Etobicoke — 674-6666

COLLEGIATE/SPORTS EXPERTS (locations): Yorkdale Shopping Centre, Fairview Shopping Centre, Thornhill-North Yonge.

MONTREAL: (514) 630-4738 • OTTAWA: (613) 824-8298 •

VANCOUVER: (604) 980-0427

HONEY HOUSE COMPANY, 20 St. Patrick St., Ste. 307, Toronto, Ont., Canada M5T 2Y4 (416) 977-6964

ters in the gallery, used his power to take a 14-10 lead in the first game. However, Talbott's undying retrieving and Binn's flirtation with the tin created a 15-14 victory for Talbott. Binns re-established some momentum in the beginning of the second game as he dazzled the crowd with a ferocious rail to put away a double boast and trail 7-9. Binn's offensive was short lived however, as Talbott counter-punched with brilliance to win the second 15-9. In the third game, Talbott neutralized his opponent's remaining zest and picked up the pace to win 15-11 and arrive, once again, in the semi-finals.

Mark Talbott, who has been the #1 ranked North American player for the past five years, was the odds-on favourite to win his semi-final match against John Nimick. Nimick had only beaten Talbott twice before, however, Nimick's much improved fitness level assisted him in applying substantial pressure on Talbott throughout the four game encounter. A close battle in the first game led to a decisive tie at two all, set three. Nimick's fatal tin off a backhand volley three wall gave Talbott a 17-16 conquest. Nimick's critical error did not affect his play as he mounted a quick offensive to jump to an 8-4 lead in the second. The lack of any substantial pressure from Talbott gave Nimick a chance to impose his style of play and take the second game 15-8. In game three, Nimick's aggressive shot making granted him another 8-4 lead. Nevertheless, Talbott's determination generated psychological weight on Nimick. Talbott advanced to a 2-1 lead, set three. Nimick evened the score at 16-all at which point Talbott hit an uncommon tin to lose the game. Nimick's lack of fatigue gave him the opportunity to take the stand once again, as he defeated the #1 seed 15-10 in the fourth game, and become the author of the upset of the weekend.

On the other end of the spectrum, #2 seed Ned Edwards pulled his way through three five game matches to reach the semi-finals. In round one, Edwards faced University of Western Ontario's Mark Barber who took the first two games 15-7, 15-13. Barber's inexperience with professional squash and Edward's cool-handed solution to a two game deficit turned the tides. Edwards took firm control of the situation as he swept the next three games 15-8, 15-10, 15-4. After eliminating Azam Khan 10-15, 15-6, 13-15, 15-9, 15-5, Edwards met Tom Page in the quarter-finals. Page's brilliant athleticism was undergoing a renaissance in one of the most exciting matches of the tournament. In the first game Page took advantage of his explosive abilities

and deadly roll corners to defeat Edwards 15-11. Edwards moved ahead to a 13-8 lead in the game with pinpoint accuracy and domination of the T. Page clawed his way back into the game to tie it at 13-all. Edwards then called no-set and proceeded to hit a devastating volley which ended its flight by hitting Page off the front wall. Page made a crucial error the next point and Edwards tied the match at one all.

Edwards re-established his game to handily win the third game 15-7. Page counterattacked with brilliance to win the fourth game 15-8. The stage was set as the enthusiastic crowd awaited the fifth and final onslaught. Edwards resumed his attack with several three wall nicks which furnished him with a 10-5 lead. Page continued his struggle to keep up as he faced an 8-12 deficiency. Edwards' commanding position surfaced again, however, as he seized the fifth game 15-9.

In the semi-finals, Edwards squared off against Jose (Pepe) Martinez who's inclination to put competitors in the hot seat by sizzling the ball around all four corners from every conceivable angle has made him the strong man of the Mexican contingency. Pepe had just defeated #4 seed Clive Caldwell whose coolness had consistently been a thorn in his side on many occasions.

Edwards took an 11-6 lead in the first game. Suddenly the Martinez machine caught fire with a ferocious arsenal of alien shots which took Edwards by surprise. Edwards lead was reduced to a smaller gap of 13-12. Edwards was then able to look beyond the shockwaves and carefully dissect his opponent's game to win the first game 15-12. In the third game Edwards detected signals of a disheartened Martinez to cruise to a 15-9 victory.

In the final, Edwards' aggressive style served to prolong his undefeated record against John Nimick. Game one began with a tentative posture on behalf of Edwards. Nimick capitalized on his assailant's errors to lead 5-1. Edwards then concentrated on keeping the ball deep in the corners to alleviate the pressure, and emerged with a 15-11 victory in the first.

In the second game, Edwards stayed out in front of Nimick. Although Nimick engineered a midgame incursion, Edwards protected his lead and allowed his competitor only nine points. In the final game of the high-paced thriller, Edwards moved with confidence and re-imposed his sharp shooting to end Nimick's hot streak with a 15-9 victory.

AMATEUR RESULTS

Men's Open
Men's "B"
Men's "C"
Men's "D"
Men's 35+
Men's 40+
Men's 40+ Hardball
Women's Open
Women's "B"
Women's "C"
Women's "D"

Steve Wren over Scott Stoneburgh
Mike Donnelly over Leo Smits
Bob Miller over Ewan Hamnett
Charles Park over Alan Frandsen
Victor Harding over John Power
Colin Syme over Brian Blakeley
Tony Swift over Peter Hatcher
Ann Dowhaniuk over Jill Samis
Louise Edwards over Christine Yorga
Karen Buss over Lolly Gillen
Robin Geller over Ellen Querengesser



Canadian Women's Team Maintains World Position Over Tough Competition

BY ALAN SMITH



Team Host Jim Benson, Andrie Levey, Gail Pimm, and coach Ian Paton (left to right). Seated, Joyce Maycock and Nancy Cranbury.

The Canadian Women's National Squash Team scored a convincing 3-0 victory over Scotland in its final match of the 1987 Women's World Championships in Auckland, New Zealand, to repeat its fifth place finish in the previous championships. Joyce Maycock (Vancouver), playing in the number three position, led off with a hard fought 3-2 win over Joan Sutherland. This was followed by Gail Pimm (Toronto) who scored a convincing 3-1 win over Scottish number one Alison Cruickshank. Nancy Cranbury (Ottawa), playing on a tender ankle, completed the sweep with a 3-0 shutout over Shirley Brown in the final match.

In preliminary round robin play, Canada had finished third in its seven team pool with a four and two record. The team faced powerful England in its opening match and was overwhelmed at all three positions. This was followed by easy straight set victories over France and Norway. In the key match against fourth seeded Ireland, the less experienced Canadians were no match for the well balanced Irish team of Mary Byrne, Rebecca Best and Marjorie Burke, with only Maycock able to stretch her opponent (Burke) before losing 4-9, 10-8, 9-7, 5-9, 4-9. Round five was a much appreciated bye for Canada which had to face an improved Nether-

SUBSCRIPTION
SQUASH



Your Personal Copy
To Your Home/Office -
5 Issues for ONLY \$10.00

Subscribe Now
make payment money order
payable to:
SQUASH LIFE
c/o Squash Ontario
1220 Sheppard Avenue East
Willowdale, Ontario
M2K 2X1

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Prov _____
Postal Code _____

lands team in the sixth round.

The Netherlands proved to be a formidable opponent as Gail Pimm suffered a surprise five game loss to Babette Hoogendoorn. However, Cranbury and Maycock came through with determination to win their respective matches both in four games. The final was less difficult against an inexperienced Welsh team with only Maycock pushed to an extra game. Unfortunately at match ball in her game, Cranbury twisted her ankle. Though she was able to wrap up the match, the prospects looked bleak for the playoffs commencing the next day against a greatly improved West German team. England easily won the pool, with Ireland, Canada, the Netherlands, France, Wales and Norway finishing second through seventh respectively.

Coach Ian Paton chose to rest Cranbury against the Germans in hopes that she would be sufficiently recovered for the final. The strategy worked thanks to the strong play of Pimm and Maycock who each won 3-1 over their opponents. Reserve Andrie Levey (Calgary) lost in four games against German number three in the final match. The Canadians thus moved into the fifth place playoff which they won as noted.

In the other pool, Australia shocked New Zealand with a 3-0 sweep including a decisive 9-6, 3-9, 9-7, 3-9, 9-1 victory by former World Champion Vickie Cardwell over reigning World Champion Sue Devoy in front of Devoy's supportive fans. Both teams easily won their remaining matches. Scotland took third over West Germany, with the United States, Sweden and Japan finishing behind.

In the main event semi-finals, Eng-

land edged New Zealand 2-1 and Australia overwhelmed Ireland 3-0. The final was a dramatic and fitting finish to an excellent, well-run Championships. Australian number two, Robyn Friday, surprised everyone with a five game win over Martine Le Moignan in the opening match to put the pressure on England. World number two, Lisa Opie of England, responded with what many observers claimed was the best exhibition of women's squash ever, by coming back from a first game loss with incredible determination to overcome veteran Vickie Cardwell. The stage was set for a battle between the 1985 Junior Women's World Champion, Lucy Soutter and her successor, Sarah Fitzgerald. Not surprisingly Soutter, ranked fourth in the world, came through with a 3-1 victory to clinch the Championship for England.

New Zealand edged Ireland 2-1 in a surprisingly close battle for third and West Germany climbed from its thirteenth place finish to seventh by defeating the Netherlands 2-1.

Canadian coach, Ian Paton, was impressed with the dramatic improvement of several European countries including West Germany, France and the Netherlands. He feels that the Canadians will have to make significant progress to just hold onto their current standing in the face of these developing young players at the next Championships in the Netherlands two years from now.

The C.S.R.A. appreciates the fine efforts of the Canadian team members and the support of Sport Canada which fully funded the expenses of the trip, as well as Black Knight Enterprises who provided uniforms for the team. ●

Susan Devoy Repeats as World Champion

New Zealand native, Susan Devoy successfully defended her Women's Individual World Squash title against top Australian and English challengers in front of an enthusiastic, partisan crowd at the 1987 Honda Women's World Squash Championships in Auckland. Devoy outclassed #2 seed Lisa Opie (England) 9-3, 10-8, 9-2 in an almost identical replay of the 1985 final.

Devoy reached the final with ease, losing only one game in a fourth round match against N.Z. teammate, Joanne Williams. Convincing victories against #7 seed Alison Cumings (England) 9-4, 9-4, 9-1 in the quarterfinals and #6 seed Liz Irving (Australia) 9-3, 9-4, 9-2 in the semifinals foreshadowed the final result. Opie had a slightly more difficult trip to the final, but was not seriously pressed until the semifinals when she had to overcome 1983 world champion, Vickie Cardwell (Australia) 10-8, 9-6, 8-10, 4-9, 9-2. Irving took third 9-6, 10-8, 9-10, 9-6 over Cardwell.

Top #1 Canadian, Gail Pimm (Toronto), reached the third round before losing to Cumings in three straight, while Nancy Cranbury (Ottawa) and Joyce Maycock, #2 and #3 respectively on the Canadian team were eliminated in the second round by #4 seed, Martine LeMoignan (England), and #8 seed, Robyn Friday (Australia), respectively. Cranbury and Maycock reached the quarterfinals of the forty-eight player plate event for first and second main round losers before clashing head on. Cranbury prevailed 9-3, 10-9, 3-9, 2-9, 9-7 in this match, but then lost to highly ranked English player Alex Cowie 9-10, 9-9, 9-7 in the semifinals.

Former Scottish National team member, Heather Wallace, now residing in Ottawa, reached the fourth round before having the misfortune of meeting Cardwell and succumbing 9-2, 9-1, 9-0. National Team member Andrie Levey (Calgary) lost in the first round to J. Webster (New Zealand) 8-10, 6-9, 1-9. ●

Sauna-San

(FORMULA H-1-2)

CLEANS & DEODORIZES SAUNAS. REDUCES MILDEW STAINS & RENEWS CEDAR & CEDAR AROMA.

EASY TO SPRAY ON & RINSE. ORDER 16 LITRE CASE PER CLUB.

Ball INSTANT SQUASH COURT WALL CLEANER

SIMPLY APPLY WITH EXTENSION SPONGE MOP & WIPE AWAY THE BALL MARKS. NO NEED FOR LADDER OR RUBBING.

ORDER: 1 GAL. (4 L) PER COURT

off

DISTRIBUTED BY

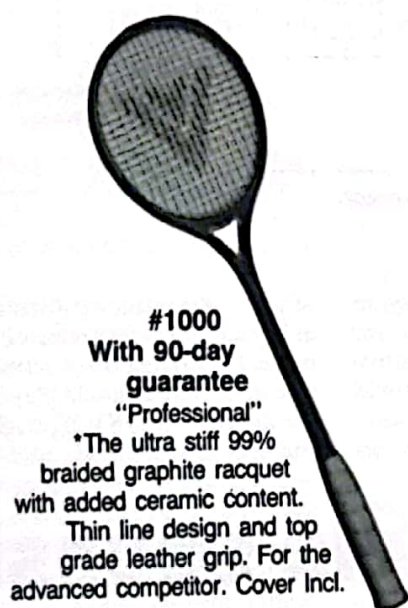
Playcon

Recreational Equipment Limited

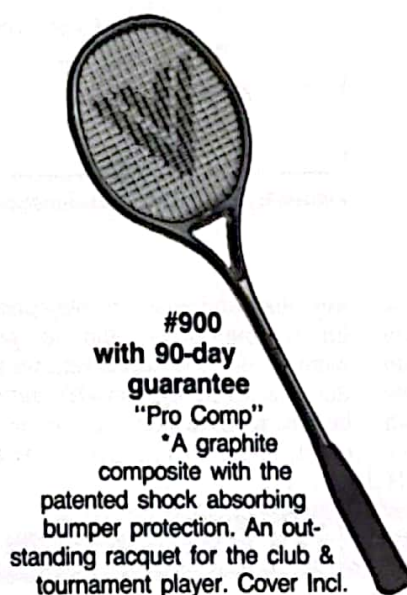
275 Arnold Street, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 6E8
(519) 743-8132 TELEX-Playcon 06955182

VOIT

SQUASH RACQUETS WITH 90-DAY GUARANTEE



#1000
With 90-day
guarantee
"Professional"
*The ultra stiff 99%
braided graphite racquet
with added ceramic content.
Thin line design and top
grade leather grip. For the
advanced competitor. Cover Incl.



#900
with 90-day
guarantee
"Pro Comp"
*A graphite
composite with the
patented shock absorbing
bumper protection. An out-
standing racquet for the club &
tournament player. Cover Incl.

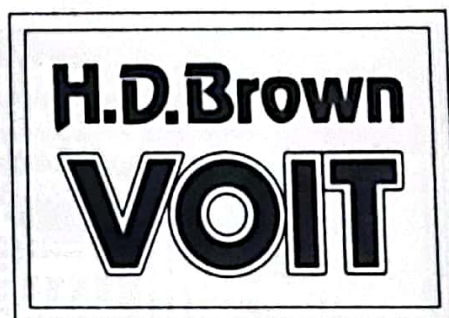


#800
with 90-day
guarantee
"Dual Pro"
*A graphite/ceramic/
kevlar composite with the
unique twin shaft design.
Foam damped handle &
cushioned leather grip. For the
serious player. Cover Incl.

VOIT: A HISTORY OF COURT PERFORMANCE YOU CAN TRUST:

With Voit Squash Racquets, you get exceptional quality and value. We offer a full range of Squash Racquets, from the beginner to the most advanced competitor. Now we offer a 90 day guarantee on our top 3 Squash Racquets. Just one more reason to buy a Voit Racquet.

When you are looking for the best quality and value, look for the VOIT name. Available at your local sporting goods retailer. Sold across Canada.



Distributed by: H. D. BROWN ENTERPRISES LTD., 23 BEVERLY STREET E.
ST. GEORGE, ONTARIO N0E 1N0 (519) 448-1381

Frontcourt Strategy

Exploiting the Short Ball

BY PROF. JOHN R. FAIRS

Anytime you are forced to return a ball from the STOP or red-light you are clearly limited in what you can do with the ball. This situation clearly calls for a defensive strategy which seeks to keep the ball in play and not give the point away through error. If you can play a ball in the midcourt or CAUTION zone you are in a very promising position to hit a forcing shot. This situation suggests an attack-oriented strategy to take advantage of the loose ball in the centre. The key point here is not to go for an outright winner but to make sure your shot puts your opponent under enough pressure to force an error or a weak return that can be put away for a winner. On the other hand, when a ball comes to you in the green light or GO zone, you are often in an excellent competitive position to go for an outright winner. The focus of strategy in this situation is cut-and-dried; attack in order to exploit your point-winning opportunity. This principle is valid in all cases. Violation of it always constitutes a serious strategic error in frontcourt play.

Up to this point, we have looked at the strategy of play in two of the zones of play: backcourt (Sept/Oct. 1986) and midcourt (Jan/Feb. 1987). This article looks at strategic percentage play in the frontcourt or green-light zone.

In earlier articles, we elaborated in some detail on the influence of court position on strategic choice. Percentage strategic play boils down to know-

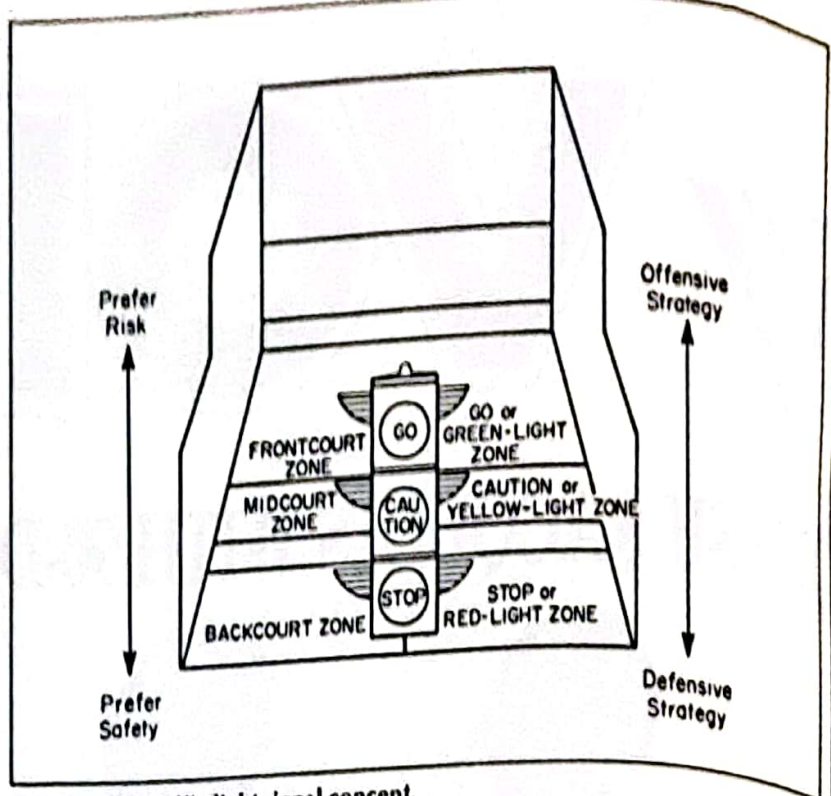


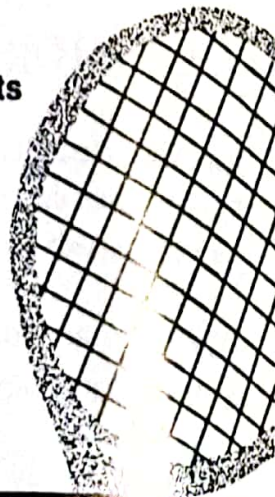
Figure 1: The traffic light signal concept.

ing when and where to play safely, to hit forcing shots, and to go for winners. As you will recall, we introduced a traffic light model that could be used to guide your play in the backcourt, midcourt and frontcourt zones

of play. The traffic light signal shown in Figure 1 provides a simple but useful model for relating court position to the type of shot you should play by dividing the court into STOP, CAUTION, and GO zones.

Affordable squash, downtown.

- 10 Squash Courts
- Fully Equipped Gym
- Aerobics
- Fitness Testing
- Saunas
- Tanning
- Lounge & Restaurant Facilities
- Parking



McCaul Squash and Fitness Club
 21 McCaul St. TORONTO
 (2 blocks west of University, north of Queen)
 979-1422

An Assessment of the Player's Competitive Situation

When the ball comes to you in your green-light zone you find yourself in one of two distinct strategic situations:

1. you can do something with the ball.
2. you can do little if anything with the ball.

Situation 1 results from a weak shot by your opponent. Whenever you are in this situation of advantage you should switch on the green light and go on the attack. Situation 2 occurs when you are stretched, cramped, or hurried by the strength of your opponent's shot as you arrive in the stroking position. Here you are clearly limited in what you can do with the ball. In such a situation of disadvantage you switch on the caution light and play a defensive shot. In almost every instance, two equations guide the play of the frontcourt player. They are:

1. situation of advantage = strategy of attack = play an attacking shot.
2. situation of disadvantage = strategy of defense = play a defensive shot.

A skilled frontcourt player is very effective at tailoring his strategic posture to his competitive position. Whenever he can play a shot with an acceptable risk involved (such as a drop from a setup), he should try to hit an offensive shot. Under such circumstances, attack is strategic percentage play. In contrast, when the frontcourt player has an unacceptable percentage chance of playing a winner or near winner, defense is strategic percentage play.

This article offers a brief overview of strategic percentage play in the green-light zone. It describes the excellent strategic position enjoyed by the player when playing an attackable short ball. It also indicates the need to attack when opportunity knocks. Space does not permit discussion of the defensive dimension of frontcourt play.

The choice of attack or defense depends on the competitive situation on the court. Consequently, before you decide to attack or defend, you must assess or judge the situation you are in. As already noted, if your opponent commits the blunder of giving up a loose ball or setup, you are in an attack-against-defense situation. You must hit a finesse shot if you expect to win in strong competition. It is strategic percentage play.

There are many reasons why this is so. Take as an example the play of A in Figure 2 in which B has given A a frontcourt setup. The important factor here is the space advantage now enjoyed by A. Here, of course, A is in excellent strategic position and the sole

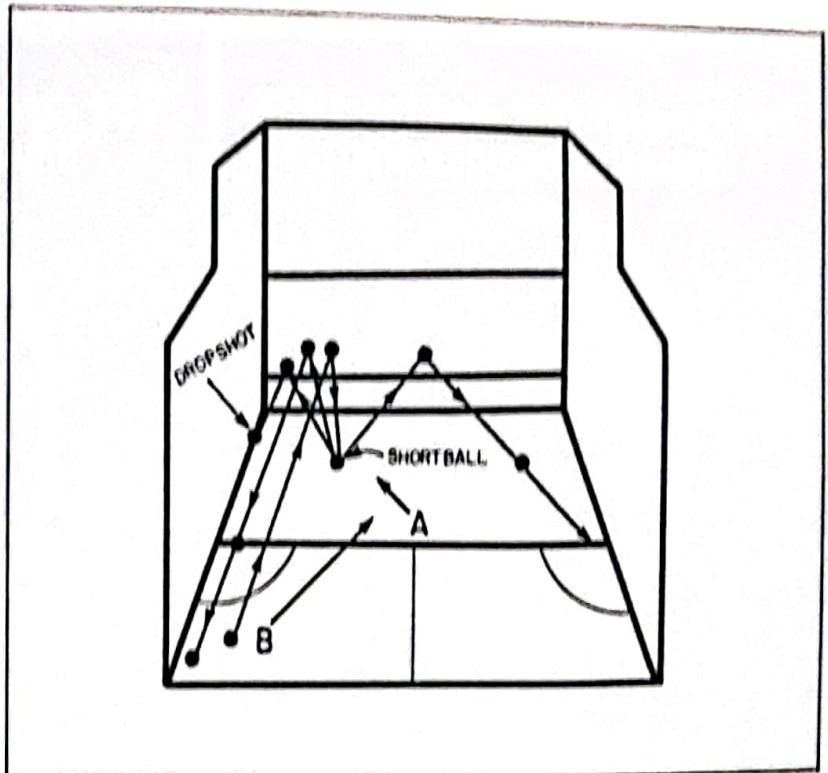


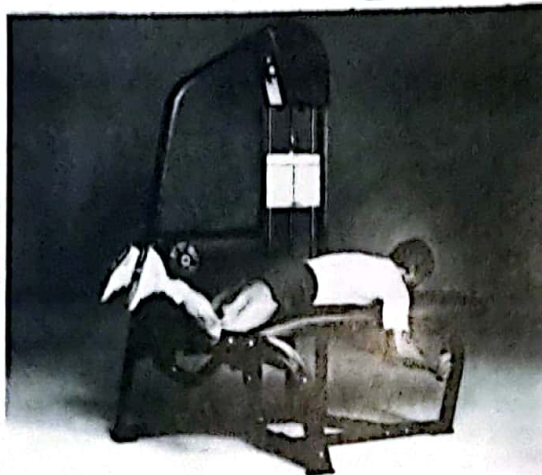
Figure 2: Illustration of delay tactic.

question is to find the best way of exploiting this. In this situation A uses his straight drop as the basis for decisive attack. Figure 2 below shows how a gain in space enables A to seize the initiative and go on attack. Since A is

close to the front when he attempts the drop, the ball has a very short distance to travel. This means you can play the ball close to the tin with less risk of error. Also the shorter the distance the ball travels and less time B has to reach

ARE ALL THE COURTS IN USE TO-DAY?

Nautilus succeeds where ordinary exercise equipment fails



One of the most popular operations available to-day is the exercise-fitness area. An owner of an existing squash-racquetball facility can take advantage of empty courts by converting them with a little effort and a relatively small investment in Nautilus equipment.

For more information call Franc Sutcliffe 613-238-1111

NAUTILUS = CANADA

FITNESS EQUIPMENT LTD.

87 George St., Ottawa, Ont., K1N 9H7

The racquet that won the 1986 Squash Championship.



The racquet that lost the 1986 Squash Championship.



The winner of last year's U.S. National Squash Championship, Master's Division, played with an ESTCA Elite II racquet. And so did the runner up. We couldn't lose. And you can't either, when you play with an ESTCA racquet. It's marked with a rare symbol of excellence: The official seal of endorsement of the U.S. Squash Racquets Association. Small wonder. Crafted from Ceramic Kevlar Graphite Boron, ESTCA is truly the world's most advanced squash racquet. The choice of champions. Remember, it is whether you win or lose. And when it comes to squash racquets, you can't beat ESTCA.

Looking for performance, value and warranty?

| | Elite II | Elite II |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hi-tech performance | Ceramic/Kevlar/Graphite | Ceramic/Boron/Graphite |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Value | \$129.00 (SUGGESTED RETAIL*) | \$149.00 (SUGGESTED RETAIL*) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warranty | 60 days | 60 days |

Elite II

*Dealer may/can call for less.

USTech, 17720 N.E. 65th St., Redmond, Wa 98052 (206) 881-8989
 Distributed in Canada by: Lward Marketing Inc. 230 Don Park Rd., #16, Markham, Ont., L3R 2P7 (416) 477-7614

the ball. Seizing these chances and taking advantage of them is percentage play by A.

It should be understood that a setup nearly always gives A more time than he needs to play his next shot. When this happens A is in an excellent position to do something with the ball. The pluses include:

- better preparation
- better thinking tactically and strategically
- better targeting. Aiming takes time
- better balance and footwork
- better accuracy

The benefits of these pluses make attacking play percentage squash.

Of course, A can use time in other ways to achieve a competitive advantage over B. There are four primary considerations here: delay, deception, power, and the double threat.

Delay. When presented with a setup A should get to the ball as soon as possible so he has the time to delay or hold his shot. If A hears or sees some forward movement by B he hits deep down the side wall or hard and low across court in the region of the opposite service box. If B "stays home" he plays the drop. See Figure 2. Delaying your choice of shot to the very last moment is very effective in preventing anticipation of the drop, in wrong-footing an opponent who has committed himself too soon, and so on. It is the true test of a skilled frontcourt player.

Deception. Like delay, deception can play a key role in exploiting the advantage accorded by a short ball in the front. If A, for example, fails to deceive B every now and then, he will find that his finesse shots are easily anticipated and returned. A's deception may not always result directly in a winning shot, but it will usually delay B's movement to the ball and force him into a hurried return. Like delay, the player that uses deception to good effect gains an important advantage over his opponent. Attacking shots must employ disguise and deception if they are not to be "read" and anticipated by your opponents.

Power. Whenever A has ample time to make a shot, he should prepare early, making it look as though he is going to play a drive. The goal here, of course, is to convince B, by his build-up prior to actually striking the ball, that a drive is about to be played. If successful, A's drop catches B unawares, beating him completely or forcing a weak response that can be volleyed deep for a winner. The effectiveness of this tactic is enhanced by occasionally hitting hard to a length when there is the opportunity to play short with a finesse shot.

The Double Threat

The Achilles' Heel of frontcourt tactics is the double threat. By this I simply mean the ability to hit short or deep whenever the ball is hit offensively in a green-light zone rally. It is a tactic used by the skilled player to tailor his shot-making to what is happening in the game. If, for example, a defender is easily getting to a well-executed drop, it is time to prepare as if to hit short but hit deep instead to capitalize on the defender's anticipation of the drop. In order to help the reader understand the double threat consider the following example in which we can see the tactic applied.

A has a setup on his forehand and gets on the ball quickly, with knees well bent and strike-arm extended to the side, indicating his intention to play a

feathery straight drop. B starts to move for it and in that instant A snaps the ball crosscourt pass B who is moving up to anticipate the drop. See Figure 3. A point-winning move, after which B soon learns that he better not expect a drop just because A shapes to play one. Fear of crosscourt and downwall drives, of course, keep B vulnerable to the drop. He has no defense against the double threat of the drop and a drive-to-a-length. It would be easy to cite other examples to demonstrate the effectiveness of the double threat in forecourt play.

The setup gives A a strategic advantage: delay, deception, power and the double threat are effective ways for A to tactically exploit his excellent strategic positional superiority. They form the basis of competitive advantages

Enjoy Squash

at the Lakeshore

Lakeshore
 Club
 100 Lakeshore Dr.
 Markham, Ont. L3R 0Y3
 Tel. (416) 466-3777



Over 1000 sq. ft. of air conditioned court space with full glass walls.
 Your own private locker room with full fitness equipment.
 Swimming pool, sauna, steam bath, lounge, dining room.
 The perfect environment for business & recreation.

Now Open

466-3777

Mayfair

RACQUET CLUB

Your membership also entitles you to play on any of the squash courts at the clubs listed below.

WEST
 3855 Chesswood Dr
 Downsview
 638-1010

PARKWAY
 50 Steelcase Rd. E
 Markham
 475-0350

EAST
 160 Esna Park Dr
 Markham
 475-8833

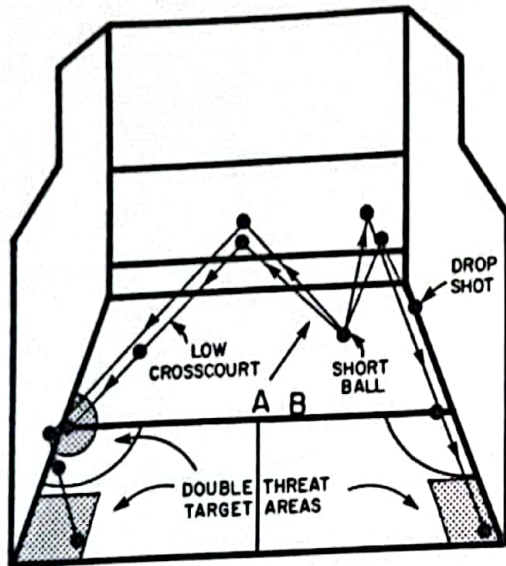


Figure 3: Illustration of the double threat.

that often determine why one player wins and another loses.
The Need to Attack

Our discussion has clearly demon-

strated - assuming, of course, you have the ability to execute and the confidence to go for the shot - that the odds favor attack if presented with an easy

Here's a Have your cake and eat it too deal from Straub Sports:

Our Quality

- A wide selection of fine squash racquets and accessories.
- High quality nylon & gut strings in special squash gauge.
- Stringing by Straub experts official stringers for the '85 Drakkar Noir Canadian Open Squash Championship.

At Their Prices

We'll match the very best retail prices you can find in Toronto.

STRAUB SPORTS LTD.

1268 Yonge St. Toronto, Ontario M4T 1W5
 Tel: (416) 923-5128

ball in the green-light zone. Remember that you are in control of the rally, your opponent is under pressure, you have an advantage in space and time, you can use disguise, and so on. In such circumstances the percentage chance of winning the point is decidedly in your favour. While attack is the high-risk strategy with a low probability of success in the red-light zone, risk is low and payoff is high in the green-light zone. In essence, this means percentages favor winners when you have a setup in the frontcourt.

It is worth pointing out that the chance and need to attack must overrule other considerations in frontcourt play. Under normal conditions, the attacking player should win, and will unless losing by errors or opposed by an exceptionally skilled defender. The basic idea of squash is to make your opponent cover the maximum area of the court and force him to return short in the front so you can go for a winner. A short ball is your opportunity to take control of the point. To compete effectively, you must rely and capitalize upon such point-winning opportunities to win games. The better the player, the more he will make his opponent pay for giving him an attackable short ball.

Everything that a player does (such as playing the ball to length) is designed to produce a point-winning opportunity. It is surprising, therefore, to see so many players pass up opportunities to attack when they are in position to do so. How often do you hear after matches: "I played well — I had my chances but I didn't shoot enough." What is overlooked is that making attacking shots is part of playing well. Whether or not a player takes his chances is often a question of attitude. More will be said later about the importance of attitude but here let us stress an aggressive attitude is essential to going for a winner when the shot is there. You will find that if you do not have an aggressive mind-set, you will fail to react physically to scoring shots that comes your way. But once your mind is geared to attack, you will react aggressively to scoring changes. Notice it to say that attitude is an essential part of the skill needed in the green-light zone.

Conclusion

The decision to attack or defend boils down to a matter of judgement. One player, for example, may be an eager risk-taker. Whatever the situation (stretched, off-balance, deep in the court) he attempts to hit winners. He chooses to gamble or take chances in situations where he can't do much with the ball. In contrast, another player is a risk-avertter inclined "to play it safe" regardless of the situation. Trying to

minimize risk exposure from going for shots when he is in position to do so. His squash is negative. Whatever the situation this player simply keeps the ball in play. In both cases, the percentage chances of success are slim against a good opponent.

Between these extremes, the player who concerns himself with "playing the percentages" will attack whenever the right opportunity occurs. Unlike the promiscuous attacker, however, he attempts winners only when he is balanced and has an easy ball in the green-light zone. In playing the ball, he appreciates that the dividends for attempting winners in the front of the court are high, while the risk element is low. In the back however, the reverse is true. On this basis he takes risks in the front of the court and plays safe in the back. That attitude is a prerequisite for success at all levels of play. ●

Canadian Women's Open Returns To Belleville

The 1987-88 Canadian Women's Open is returning to The Harbour Club in Belleville after a one year absence. The club generously agreed to host the event on relatively short notice after original plans did not materialize.

Black Knight Enterprises Limited has provided generous sponsorship support, again on short notice, after the withdrawal of the previous sponsor. With their help, the support of Wintario and assistance from several minor sponsors, this important event will continue in the women's tournament schedule. The date has been moved to the end of November (26th to 29th) in order to act as the focal point of the fall season.

As usual, a number of international players are expected to enter this tournament, especially since it is important for women's world rankings as a W.I.S.P.A. "C" graded event. It is also very important for Canadian rankings since it is the last major women's event in the fall season.

With a 24 main draw, plus qualifying, there is ample opportunity for any nationally ranked player to compete in the event. Consolation events have been set up for losers of the first two rounds, including losing qualifiers, to give players maximum playing time. ●

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN!

Some years ago, Dr. Michael Easterbrook designed and developed a portable eye injuries display. The display has been used by many clubs across Canada during that period and has been instrumental in educating many squash players in the need for eye protection. The problem we face is that the dis-

play is lost. We are asking all squash clubs to search their facility for an orange packaging crate approximately 4' x 8' in size. If you find it, please telephone Squash Ontario at (416) 495-4140 and we will advise Dr. Easterbrook of its location. ●



Over 11,000 squash, racquetball and soccer courts around the world are using FIBERESIN® Melamine Laminated Panel playing surfaces

Do these court owners know something you don't?

The answers are in the FIBERESIN® Hi-Density Wall Panels Portfolio. To obtain your copy, contact:

FIBERESIN® INDUSTRIES, INC.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-0088

TEL 414/567-4427 TWX 910-260-1432 FAX 414-567-4814

NOTHING VENTURED, NOTHING GAINED

One of the many responsibilities of an International Governing Body of Sport is to standardize the rules of the activity and to ensure a common interpretation by all those who play the game. Under the chairmanship of Tony Swift, the International Rules Committee takes its responsibilities seriously and by the end of 1987 they will have completed a most important project: the production of a series of films and a book which give an official and common interpretation to the Rules.

But what Rules? The I.S.R.F. has an overall responsibility for the rules of both hardball and softball squash. In fact, the work has been directed at softball because the overwhelming majority of the 12 to 15 million squash players in the world play the "International" game.

However, hardball has not been entirely neglected. George Morfitt of Vancouver chaired a team of experts who produced a report for the I.S.R.F. in 1985 suggesting ways of rationalizing the two games. For the moment the report has fallen on deaf ears but there are signs that the world is becoming a little restless with the present rules (softball) and the "Morfitt Report" has already had an impact on rules experimentation in 1987.

The eighty squash playing Nations of the world are broadly divided into three groups when it comes to any rules experimentation:

The Reactionaries - "The Rules are satisfactory; there is no need for change"

The Radicals - "We need to update the Rules; some are difficult to comprehend"

The Others - "We've only just started playing squash and lack the experience to consider change".

For the past four years the I.S.R.F. has managed to contain the conflicts between the Reactionaries and the Radicals by placing a moratorium on the Rules as they exist but at the same time encouraging the Radicals to run controlled experiments and report their findings to the Rules Committee.

But the real pressure for experimentation and change is coming from out-



Roger Eady, Executive Director of the I.S.R.F.

side the sport. Many of our Member Nations are only too aware that they are in open competition with a great many other sports for the attention of the youth of their country. Squash competes with soccer, athletics, tennis, badminton, etc. for the same customers. For squash to succeed it helps to have an attractive media image, have easily understood rules and give the beginner a very early chance of success. It is therefore essential for squash to keep a wary eye on its rivals while at the same time considering ways of becoming even more attractive to potential players. Our Radical members would argue strongly that to neglect any pressure for change will lead to an inevitable fall in interest in the sport.

Being an attractive media/spectator sport is of particular interest to the leading professional players. These young gladiators are extremely fit, fast and skillful and it is extremely difficult for winning shots to be made at the highest levels. The ensuing long rallies can be a potential bore to spectators. Strenuous efforts have been made by the leading manufacturers to develop slower and slower squash balls in the forlorn hope that this would lead to shorter rallies and more attractive winning shots. Certainly they have improved matters but there is still room for more experimentation.

How has the I.S.R.F. managed these pressures for change? The moratorium has prevented any hasty change to the rules and the controlled experimentation has partially satisfied the more radical I.S.R.F. elements

The experiments have taken place all over the world and it is far too early to speculate on the impact of these excursions into the unknown. Both the Radical Nations and the leading players have produced a common list of suggested changes which have formed the core of the experiments. They include:

- Increasing the rest interval from 60 to 90 seconds. The high temperatures and humidity of Singapore and Malaysia would indicate the need for such changes. Maybe 90 seconds is still not long enough!
- Lowering of the tin from 19 to 17 inches. A move suggested by certain leading men players who had been exposed to the hardball game and were hopeful that such a change would lead to more spectacular winning shots.
- American Scoring: Maybe spectators would appreciate the awarding of a point at the end of each rally. The players believe that such a scoring system may appeal to spectators but they are not yet convinced that it will lead to more offensive play.
- One Service: Why allow two services in the International game when you can lose the service anyway if you serve the first ball out of court. The Asia/Pacific region is keen to see this rule adopted and I'm sure that the Rules Committee share their enthusiasm because it will do away with a whole page of Rules!

Not exactly the stuff that resolutions are made of, but these suggested changes do add up to an agonious and bitter exchange between some of our more extreme Member Nations.

I suppose, for most of us, to play our 2 or 3 friendly games a week is just a load of hot air — or so the great bard put it: "Much Ado About Nothing".

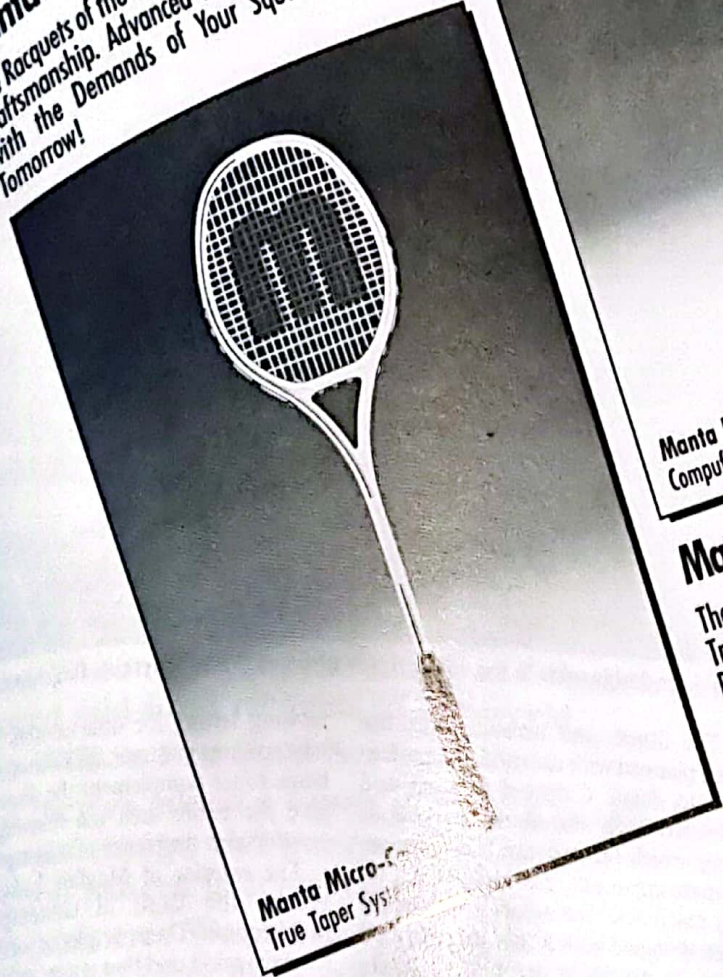
The whole business will come to a head on October 23rd in London when Tony Swift presents a review of Rules Experimentation. I hope to arrive at the encounter and to inform you of the outcome in a future article.

Whatever the outcome we should never lose sight of our need to grow and become a true World Sport. That involves competition with others and the encouragement of an active "Research and Development" department. ●

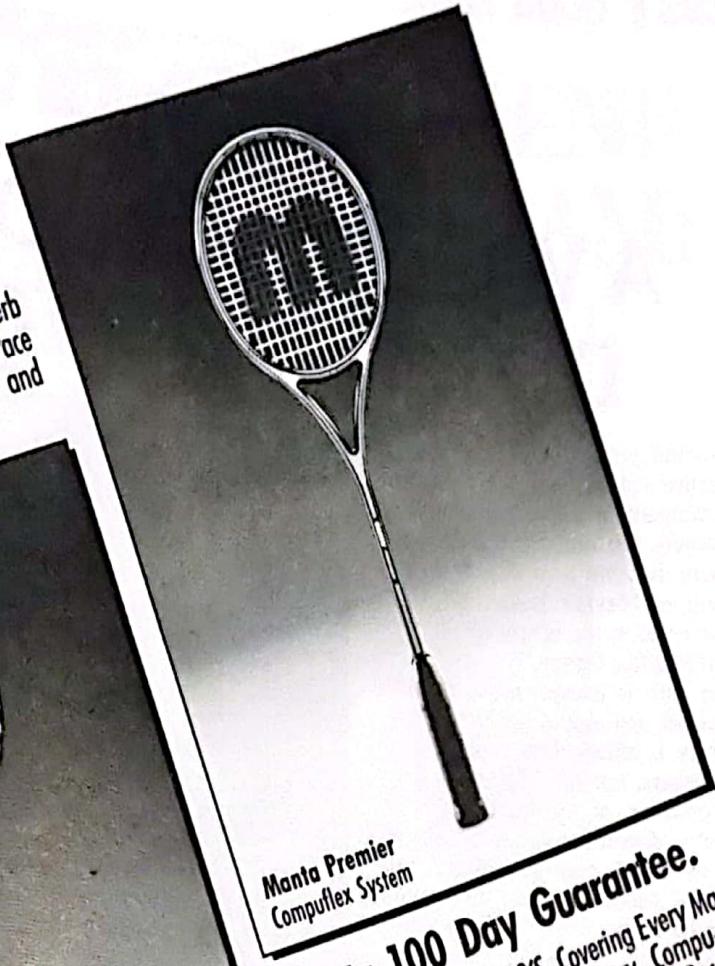
Squash,
 The Sport of the 1980'S. A Demanding Sport. A Sport
 for Fitness, Fun and Friends. A Sport to be
 Enjoyed... for Life!!!

Manta.

The Racquets of the 1980'S. Proven Designs, Superb
 Craftsmanship. Advanced Technology Keeping Pace
 with the Demands of Your Squash. Today and
 Tomorrow!



Manta Micro-System
 True Taper System



Manta Premier
 Compuflex System

Manta 100 Day Guarantee.

The Guarantee of the 1980'S. Covering Every Manta
 True Taper System Racquet. Every Compu-Flex
 Racquet. Every Aluminum Racquet. All Great Racquets.
 One Great Guarantee!

Manta offers a complete range of racquets to
 complement every player's style of play. Choose a
 winning Manta Racquet today and enjoy the sport
 of the 1980'S. For Life.

MANTA

*Squash
 for Life!*

Manta squash racquets are available at finer sporting goods outlets and pro shops throughout Canada.
 Manta Sport Ltd., P.O. Box 5500, Station "A", Calgary, Alberta, T2H 1X9



A WELCOME ADDITION TO DOWNTOWN TORONTO

For several years, rumours of a new downtown squash club have been running rampant in the Toronto squash community. On September 28th, those rumours became a reality with the opening of Mayfair Lakeshore - the newest jewel in the crown of the successful Mayfair Group.

The club is located on Lakeshore Boulevard, just east of the Don Valley Parkway. It offers a host of facilities to its members, not the least of which is that precious of all commodities in Toronto, downtown parking! Attention to detail and a sensitivity to members' needs have been the guiding principles in the planning of this multi-faceted facility. Mayfair Lakeshore offers eight fully air-conditioned tennis courts for year-round playing comfort. All courts feature "Bross Slide", the newest and best synthetic tennis surface. Bross Slide produces a slow but true bounce and has excellent traction. Beginners and more advanced players will appreciate the difference. Certified tennis professionals conduct a full tennis programme of private lessons, clinics, round robins and social play. Future expansion plans include four additional tennis courts.

The Mayfair Group is known as much for squash as for tennis and so it is no surprise that the new Lakeshore club includes eight fully air-conditioned international courts. All have glass backwalls for spectator viewing and the feature courts have carpeted bleacher seating for exhibitions and tournaments. Squash activities will be in the very capable hands of Barbara Diggins, newly arrived from England. Barbara's credentials are truly impressive, having been coach, manager and captain of the World Champion English Women's Team, is current holder of the British Closed over 35 titles as well as an array of other victories won over the past few years. She has planned a wide range of programmes for squash members from the very beginner to the most advanced. Juniors and tots are included, so squash at the Lakeshore will be truly a family affair.



Spacious design adds to the comfortable atmosphere of Mayfair's flagship club.

The fitness and aerobics area has been planned with care and great attention to detail. Carpeted flooring and mirrored walls surround the workout areas which feature variable resistance exercise apparatus, exercycles and rowing machines. The aerobics centre has been designed with a special cushioned floor to maximize aerobic fun while minimizing physical strain. It is under the very capable leadership of Mandy Tarder and a number of qualified instructors.

A 48' x 20' swimming pool which, in summer, opens onto the club's attractive outdoor patio, spacious locker room facilities, whirlpools and saunas round out a complete facility package. Day care and meeting facilities are also offered.

The club is a club for everyone, planned to provide amenities and services to the wide demographics of its membership.

A large, windowed lounge and restaurant area boasts a beautiful fireplace - a perfect focal point which exudes warmth and comfort on cold, winter nights and an outdoor patio offers an

inviting setting for wine coolers in the heat of the summer. Soft and warm beige tones complement the decor and give the entire area the relaxing and comfortable ambience of a living room.

The exterior of Mayfair Lakeshore reflects the latest in contemporary architecture. There is plenty of room for expansion and that is precisely what the Mayfair Group have intended. The future holds four new tennis courts and eight squash courts, one of which is a doubles court. Without doubt, Mayfair Lakeshore is one of Canada's finest facilities leading with the trends of today - the desire to keep fit and exercise in an enjoyable environment. Mayfair Lakeshore meets all of these requirements and, as the flagship of the Mayfair Group, it has set a new standard for racquet clubs.

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

ADD A TOUCH OF GENIUS TO YOUR SQUASH GAME.



Mid-size squash racquets have long been favoured by the top professionals. Now, Wilson has made available in Canada arguably the most technologically advanced mid-sized racquets in the world.

The Wilson Pro Staff Series.

And they've added a touch or two of genius. By reducing the spacing between the longer strings, and increasing it between the shorter strings, a more uniform deflection pattern is achieved.

The perimeter Weighting System (two special weights on either side of the racquet head) gives more ball control and power, even with off-centre shots.

Available in three models: the S.C. in Graphite/Ceramic, 300 in 100% Graphite, and the 280 in Graphite Composite.

Wilson and the Will to Win. The **PROSTAFF** Series.

Mid-size racquets for big-sized games, with an added touch of genius.

Wilson®

where there's a will there's Wilson

SQUASH TIPS

Organizing Your Locker

BY GEORGE SPELVIN

More than just a simple metal cabinet, the place you keep your equipment may well be the determining factor in your game.

"Hi there my ole tin buddy!" That's the voice of a top-notch squash player saying hello to his closest friend at the squash club — his confidant, the keeper of the deepest secrets of his game. If you love the game of squash, you already know that the numbers you dial on your lock are even more meaningful than the phone number of that escort service you've become so partial to.

Let's step inside your locker. My God — that's awfully cramped. Let's step back outside and have a look at how it should be organized. First of all, everything that is easily creased goes right at the bottom. This is particularly important if you're playing at lunch and want to get back to the office with that macho "I-just-played-a-coupla-games" look. Make sure your white shirt gets correctly crumpled and sufficiently soiled by placing your street shoes on top of it, soles down.

Personal effects are a prime concern when you're leaving your valuables in a club locker. By wrapping your priceless Piaget in a club towel, you can be confident that after the game you can easily bounce it off the tile floor by simply snapping the towel out of the locker on your way to the whirlpool.

After the game is a great time to impart that heavenly athletic scent to

your street clothes by shoving your sweaty squash clothes in on top of them while you shower. Socks, tucked into the blazer pocket are especially useful. Conversely, leave your gym socks on. This works particularly well for ladies — the pom-poms on your sockettes make it very clear to everyone at the office that you've been on the courts.

Locker location means a lot. Be near the shower so you spend less time running naked between the sauna and your clothes. Keep away from the used towel bin otherwise you'll be continuously pelted with wet ones while you're trying to dress. But be assured that one principle is invariable. It's known as Spelvin's Law and simply states "If only two people are heading toward their lockers in a completely empty locker room, those two lockers will be immediately adjacent." You'll notice that this law never fails and you spend the time getting dressed vying for bench space and putting the other player's equipment in your bag. Nothing is more fun than opening your equipment at home and finding someone else's damp shorts.

If you're lucky enough to have a permanent locker at your club, you have the joy of rushing to your locker before the game, knowing that your gear is aging to perfection inside. You open the door and are greeted by that exhilarating rush of masculine (or feminine) excitement that says "action" in a big way.

The last word on lockers is a few simple hints. Don't keep kippers or other smoked fish in your locker for quick snacks. Don't leave a lit cigar in your locker while you play — smoke it during the game. And if you do do any of these things, please be kind enough not to select the locker next to mine. Mind you, there's probably no way to avoid it. That means you can look forward to unwrapping my shorts from your bag after the game! ●

HIGH SCHOOLS CHALLENGE CUP

BY JIM MASON

"Sowing the seeds for the future" has been so aptly described by Jan Atkinson in the May/June issue of Squash Life. As a matter of interest, 10 of our Ontario universities have squash as athletic activities. Isn't the next logical progression in the development of the sport in our high schools?

With the assistance of Anna Pandos, we have been interesting as many schools as possible to take the game of squash to their students. Now, thanks to "The Conqueror", we have the Jahangir Khan High Schools Squash Challenge Cup event. Much work has been done behind the scenes in meeting physical education teachers and club owners to provide facilities so that students can use their courts in off peak periods. Much help is required and I would ask all those in a position to assist, to kindly make every effort to contact Anna Pandos (416) 362-6162 or myself (519) 599-6565. We will be pleased to put on clinics in high school gyms or in clubs.

Progress of the Challenge Cup matches has been slow but we have had five challenge matches between April 1986 and June 1987. Schools involved were the Collingwood C.I. at the Queens Squash Club, Eastview Secondary School and Barrie Racquets Club and the Georgetown District High School through the help of Chris Kogan, Neil and Wendy Conon and Murray Jans.

Nevertheless, the future looks quite promising. Through the selfless efforts of Ellie Blake at R.H. High Collegiate and Mary Drakich at Dorothy Eaton, 14 high schools have been organized and playing league matches since 1982. Many, many others have been involved and we thank all of them for their support.

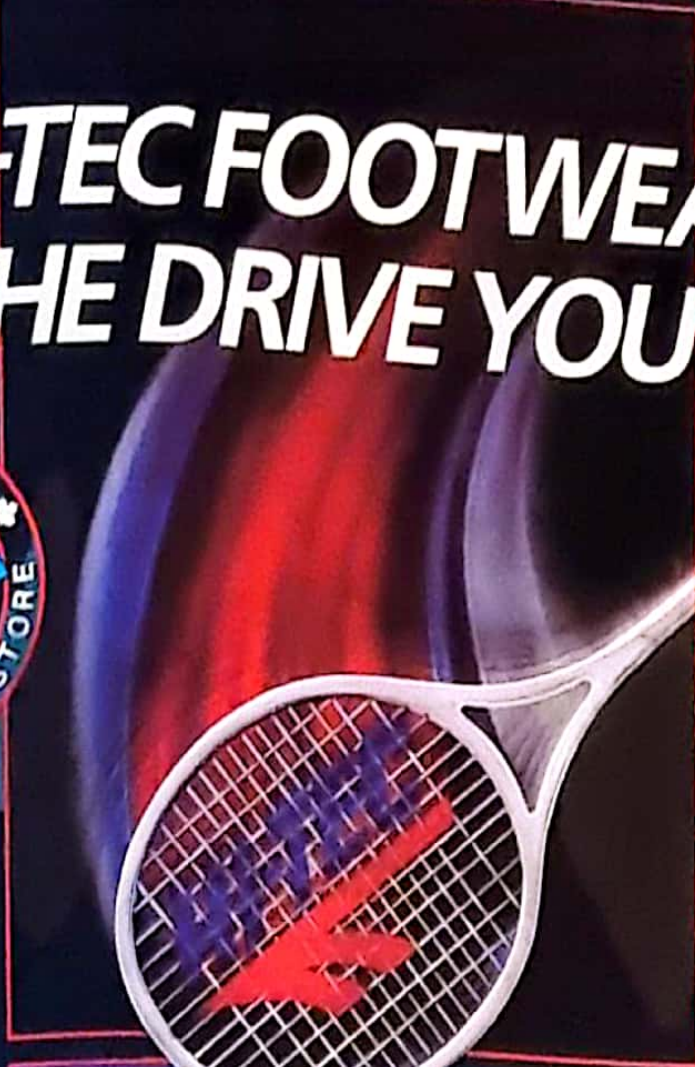
The unsung hero of the Challenge Cup is *CompuCopy*, Office Automation Inc. This company has been instrumental in funding various areas of the programme and we are much indebted for their assistance. We are all hoping to turn the students of today into club members of tomorrow. ●

Squash is my life!
by BROWNING

HI-TEC FOOTWEAR. ALL THE DRIVE YOU NEED.

AVAILABLE AT
CANADA
YOUR SPORTS STORE

Worn by:
Mike Way
Norm Platt
Steve Wren
Brian Penny
Margo Green
Nancy Cranbury
Billy Prior



SUPER SQUASH

- Mark Talbott
WPSA No 1
- Ross Norman
World No 2
- Stewart Davenport
World No 4
- Susan Devoy
World No 1
- Martine Le Moignan
Canadian No 1
- Mario Macdonald



COURTECS



LADY SQUASH



Hi-Tec Sports (Canada) Ltd.
1260 Fewster Drive, Unit 3
Mississauga, Ont. L4W 1A5
(416) 238-1666

Hi-Tec. The range of squash shoes to suit every type of player. From the leading Squash shoe company in the world. Bringing support to you and the game to life with the Hi-Tec British Open Squash Championships.

Hi-Tec Sports USA, Inc., 4400 North Star Way, Modesto, CA 95356 (209) 577-1861

