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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 member squash facilities in the province, as well as to a number of clubs and associations across Canada.

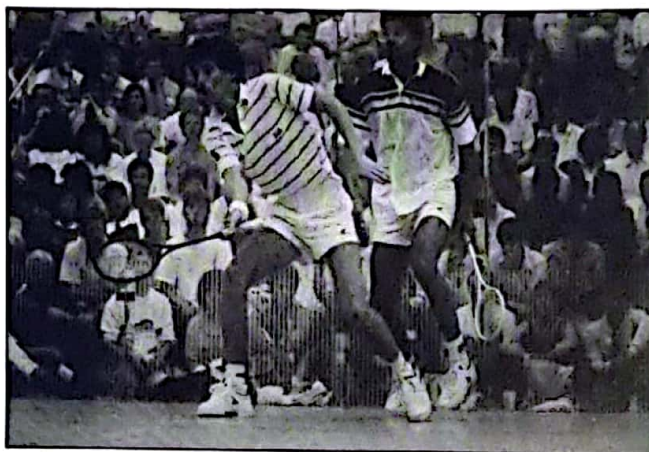
SQUASH

SEPT./OCT. 1988

VOL. 12, NO. 4

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SEPT./OCT. 1988

SQUASH LIFE

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The Fin VFS is the biggest breakthrough in racquet technology since graphite.

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THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!

This space was intended to contain my first editorial. What enormous shoes I had to fill! Sherry Funston, Managing Editor and Executive Director has always written such eloquent editorials. They were consistently interesting and extremely well written. I had spent many sleepless nights this summer, due in part to an absence of central air, but also attributable to the challenge of producing my first editorial.

However, as the fates would have it, my editorial skills will not be tested. Instead, I have the dubious privilege of writing my own obituary. Horrors! An obituary yes, but not in the real sense of the word. After almost seven and a half years as an employee of the game, I am making a career change.

Squash has provided me with great happiness since I first picked up a racquet in the fall of 1976. I can safely say that squash changed my life! I don't mean to sound like a "Born Again Squash Player", but it is hard for me to imagine where I would be were it not for this marvellous pastime.

I discovered squash quite by accident in my early twenties and it was a case of love at first sight. I had the good fortune of joining the newly opened Bridlewood Squash Club, which quickly became renowned as a home for competitive squash and socializing! Although I had some talent for the game, I was always aware of my "place". For a few years, Bridlewood had six of the top ten ranked Canadian women as members. I became a regular on the "tour" and managed my fair share of wins and losses, but I soon admitted to myself that I didn't have the right stuff and shifted my attentions to the behind the scenes work as a volunteer.

Before I knew it, I was on more committees than you could shake a stick at. I found the whole experience incredibly rewarding and it provided

me with a great source of personal satisfaction. What good fortune for me when I was hired as Programme Co-ordinator for Squash Ontario. I was much envied! Imagine, turning a hobby into a job! I thought I had died and gone to heaven. My first day at Squash Ontario was April Fool's Day, 1981, an auspicious beginning.

I have so many fond memories and personal highs. To mention only a few: the Women's World Championships (1981); the inaugural World Masters Games (1985); the annual Ontario Masters Squash Championships; various Canadian Singles and Doubles Championships; and, of course, the annual Charity Challenge. Some might think it strange, but I came into this job with a tremendous love of the game and am leaving with the same feeling.

*...I came into
this job with a
tremendous love
of the game and
am leaving with
the same feeling.*

I have to say that this has only been possible because of the people in squash. We are so lucky! As you may know, our offices are housed in the Ontario Sports Centre with those of approximately 50 other sport governing bodies. One cannot help but be aware of the horror stories emanating from some of the other sports. For some reason, squash players are a class among themselves. This isn't to suggest that squash is perfect, far from it, but we generally

seem to have fewer problems than other sports.

I have been fortunate to have acquired many dear friends in the game. These are individuals from all facets of squash; sponsors, volunteers, fellow administrators, professional and amateur players. I will miss being here at crisis control. It has always been a thrill to be so involved in the game. There are a lot of faceless people out there that I never did meet, but managed to develop many great telephone relationships. I will not have had an opportunity to say thank you and farewell to everyone. To those many people who have made my life more interesting and my job so enjoyable, thanks. Squash couldn't have survived without you.

Although I am leaving Squash Ontario, I am certainly not leaving the game. I will continue to play my two or three matches each week, whether I need to or not. In fact, I am delighted at the prospect of turning 35 this coming January. I am optimistic that this will give me a new lease on life, now that I will be eligible to participate in age category squash. The doubles game has long been my first love and I intend to haunt as many doubles events as I can. In fact, I am about to acquire a doubles squash court as a member of Mayfair Lakeshore. I can hardly wait! My greatest fear is that I won't have any excuses now that I actually have a court to practice on!

Squash and Squash Ontario will certainly survive my departure. All of us like to think that we are indispensable and we know that this isn't true. I do hope that perhaps my shoes will be a little tough to fill. At the very least, I hope that squash will miss me, if only a little bit! ●

Jan Atkinson

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

SABIR BUTT AND HEATHER WALLACE DOMINATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY ALAN SMITH

Top seeds captured the titles in all divisions of the 1988 Canadian National Squash Championships held May 5-8 at the Glencoe Club, Calgary. In the 'open' divisions top ranked Sabir Butt (Toronto) and Heather Wallace (Ottawa) came through the event without the loss of a game in their respective events.

The first two rounds of the 64-player men's event were relatively routine with only one minor upset when Canadian

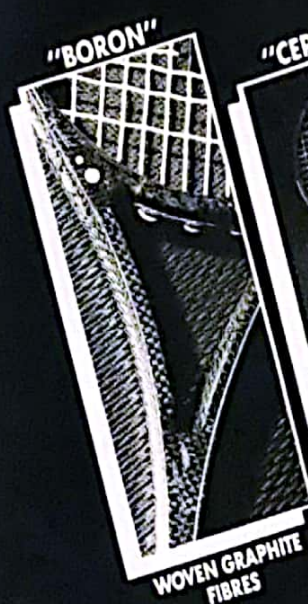
Junior Team member, Jeremy Fraiberg (Montreal) showed the impact of his recent international experience in overcoming higher-ranked Darren Thomson (Victoria). The round of sixteen produced two more significant upsets when 'veteran' 26-year-old Jeff Sneyd (Ottawa), seeded 9th, defeated 5th seed, Joe Besso (Ottawa) and Bob Ballinger (Kelowna), seeded in the 17-24 group, edged an ailing Max Weith-

ers (Toronto) 3-2. The quarterfinals held no surprises as the top four seeds won decisively by 3-0 scores. In the top semifinal, Butt overwhelmed 4th seed, Trevor Thom (Victoria) 3-0 in 30 minutes, while in the other, defending champion, Dale Styner (Calgary) surprised some observers with his convincing 3-0 over 3rd seed, Jamie Crombie (Calgary). Nineteen-year-old Butt demonstrated his rapid improvement over

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the past season in the final by reversing last year's result against Styner and capturing the title 9-5, 9-1, 9-0 in just over 40 minutes.

Crombie barely edged Thom 3-2 in the 3/4 playoff, while Steve Lawton (Vancouver) regained his form after a poor early season to take fifth over Sushane Soni (Winnipeg). Fraiberg continued his impressive performance in the feed-in consolation to take ninth place over Brendan Clarke, also of Montreal.

Former top international player, Heather Wallace, completely out-classed the field in the Women's Open defeating perennial finalist, Gail Pimm (Toronto) 9-3, 9-0, 9-4 in just over 30 minutes. Nancy Cranbury (Hamilton) took third, Joyce Maycock (Vancouver) fourth, Amanda Paton (Edmonton) fifth and Carla Jensen (Toronto) sixth, exactly according to the seedings. The only major surprise was the exceptionally strong showing of Ruth Castellino (Toronto) who, though unseeded, ending up ninth in the 36-player draw.

The age class events produced few surprises but lots of excellent, entertaining squash. On the women's side, Anne Smith (London) repeated her 35+ victory 3-0 over Patsy Cross (Calgary), Beryl Paton (Edmonton) retained her 40+ title 3-0 over Cate Mee (Niagara-on-the-Lake) and Christine Hood (Sarnia) captured the inaugural 40+ event 3-0 over Kathy Lundmark (Calgary).

The Men's events were generally equally as decisive. Defending champions: Howard Broun (Calgary), Ian Paton (Edmonton) and Zac Ezekowitz (Edmonton) retained their 35+, 40+, 45+ titles with convincing victories over John Frederick (Toronto) 3-0, Dennis Goodfellow (Toronto) 3-1 and Gerry Bilodeau (Winnipeg) 3-0 respectively. In a repeat of the 1986 final, Egon Kuhn (Nanaimo) regained his 50+ title 3-0 over Jim Adam (Toronto), while in the 55+ final Som Soni (Winnipeg) took the title in his first year in the event over Tom Pearson (Cochrane, Alta.).

With 214 entrants, the 1988 Championships were the second largest ever. The Glencoe Club, under the guidance of Tournament Chairman, Al Brook, and with the help of Arthur Hough, Shauna Williams and the many other volunteers ran a superb event. Manta Sport Limited, Xerox and Canadian Airlines International provided the vital sponsorship support necessary to host such a major event and ensure the \$12,000 in prize money. ●

ONTARIO JUNIORS INVADE REGINA NATIONALS

BY JOHN POWER

Ontario, represented by 13 girls and 35 boys, captured the C.S.R.A. team trophy at this year's Canadian National Junior Squash Championships, held in Regina. Though this is primarily an individual event, team points are calculated on the number of matches won compared to the number of participants from each province. This was the sixth time that Ontario has been victorious in the nine year existence of the team concept.

It would be safe to say that all 48 Ontario players enjoyed themselves,

competed to their fullest, but five of these players did return home with the laurels from their respective age categories. Of the five, three were repeat champions. Lori Coleman, a former Under 16 champion, took two years to be crowned Canada's number one junior female player. The 17 year-old youth from Ajax, came into the National Championships seeded second behind the six foot tall and hard hitting Calgarian, Kelsey Lundmark. By virtue of a stunning upset to



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Quebec's number one player, Jordanna Fraiberg, the anticipated Coleman/Landmark final was not to be. Lori, utilizing her quickness to advantage, had little difficulty disposing of perhaps an emotionally drained, but much improved Fraiberg, 3-0.

The second female champion was Georgetown's Melanie Jans. Melanie had little difficulty moving up from being last year's Under 14 national winner to capture the Under 16 title. With preliminary wins over Anita Soni from Winnipeg and Tara Sharpe of Peterborough, Melanie faced a tough finalist in Ottawa's Carole Ann Rodgers. However, Melanie emerged victorious with a difficult 3-0 win.

There were three champions

declared on the male side of the house, and with one match remaining, there was a strong possibility for an Ontario sweep. Unfortunately, Scott Stoneburgh was unable to live up to his number one billing, as he was defeated in four games by Montreal's Jeremy Fraiberg in an excellent Under 19 final.

Two of the three winning boys came from the same household. Jonathan Power, from Borden, won his fourth consecutive National Soft Ball Championship, becoming the first ever 13 year-old to win the Under 16 event. Not to be outdone, brother Ian won his first national title by overcoming a determined Doug Parent from Calgary, 3-1 in the Under 12 final. The Under 16

final provided the jam-packed gallery with loads of excitement. Jonathan, seeded one, was up against practice partner and fellow member of Curzon Sporting Club, Duncan Peake. As they wrestled for superiority, neither player was showing any dominance. After 40 minutes, however, Duncan was ahead 2-0 by virtue of 9-7 and 10-9 squeakers. A shirt change and some calming words sent Power out to win the third game convincingly. In the fourth, Peake jumped to a 5-1 lead, but fatigue was setting in. Power roared back, gaining up only one more point in the remainder of the match. Both boys demonstrated the toughness and determination that will keep Canadian junior squash in good stead for a few years to come.

The final and repeat national champion is 12 year-old Graham Ryding, who recently arrived with his squash playing family from Winnipeg. It could be said, without exaggeration, that Graham may be one of the finest, if not the finest, 12 year-old squash player in the world. His quickness, poise and maturity puts his game up with the nation's top 15 year-olds. This potential was clearly displayed in Regina, as he easily disposed of his five 13 year-old opponents, all in 3-0 fashion.

These are Ontario's national champions for 1988 and they deserve all the credit we can give them, but the other 43 participants from this province also played superbly. A few players we should mention for their exceptionally strong finishes: Andrew Bracht of Toronto, 6th in Under 12; Jan Wilson of Sarnia, 2nd in Under 12; Danielle Clark of Sarnia, 3rd in Under 12; Courtney Power of Borden, 5th in Under 12; Katie Pearce of Toronto, 6th in Under 12 (just watch this group of girls over the next few years); Michael Pirnak of Toronto, 3rd in Under 14; Rob Wilson of Sarnia, 4th in Under 14; Jo Thomas of Ottawa, 5th in Under 14; Sara Leckie of Toronto, 5th in Under 14; Pat Ryding of Oakville, 3rd in Under 16; Caleb Quinn of London, 4th in Under 16; Tim Petrillo of Hamilton, 5th in Under 16 (a one through five Ontario sweep); Tara Sharpe of Peterborough, 4th in Under 16; Ric Hartunian of Sarnia, 4th in Under 19; Steve Eastwood of Richmond Hill, 7th in Under 19; Margo Green of Ottawa, 4th in Under 19 and Allison Giachino of Ottawa, 6th in Under 19.

Once again, congratulations to all. This year's nationals was an excellent windup for Ontario junior squash. ●

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ATHLETE SEARCH

The 13th Maccabiah Games will take place in Israel from July 3-13, 1989. Over 5,000 Jewish athletes from 40 countries will be competing in 24 sports at venues across the country.

Canada will be sending a contingent of over 200 athletes and coaches, including a squash team of six men and four women. These athletes will try to improve on their bronze medal performances in the 1985 games.

Try-outs for the 1989 team will be taking place in two stages. The Ontario try-outs will be held on November 26 and 27, 1988 at the north branch of Toronto's Jewish Community Centre. The National try-outs will then be held sometime in February.

Any "A" or "B" level players interested in trying out for the team should contact Phil Polster at (416) 925-5973 before November 19, 1988. ●

CANADIAN SQUASH PUTS ITS "OFFICIAL SHOE" FORWARD

The Canadian Squash Racquets Association is pleased to announce the recent signing of a three year agreement with HI-TEC SPORTS (CANADA) LTD., as the "Official Shoes of the C.S.R.A.".

HI-TEC is well known internationally and is a world leader in the squash shoe market. HI-TEC is a major supporter of squash world wide as a sponsor of many tournaments, including the British Open.

Earlier this summer, HI-TEC signed a three year contract with Sabir Butt, world ranked and Canadian Number One squash player. In May, Sabir won the Canadian National Squash Championship with a 9-6, 9-1, 9-0 victory over defending champion, Dale Styner of Calgary. The victory confirmed Sabir's position as Canada's top player. ●

SEPT/OCT. 1988

A rare opportunity for devotees of racquet sports!

This unusual collection of sporting prints is yours for the ordering.

Five historical prints depicting the development of the game of racquets and squash racquets, are now available for the first time in a limited edition. You may order your portfolio and prints in black and white or hand-colored.



DEBTOR'S PRISON
(9" x 12")

The first game of racquets was played against a single wall within the Debtor's Prisons of England prior to 1800. The most famous Debtor's Prison was the "Fleet" referred to by Charles Dickens in the "Pickwick Papers".



RACQUETS-A GAME FOR EX-ATHLETES (12" x 16")

The English game of racquets made its way to New York as early as 1793 and maintained a feeble and fitful existence until more than a 100 years later when the New York Racquet Club gave it a permanent home. This print depicts the clothing of the period and a player in various positions of readiness to serve and receive the serve.



SQUASH RACQUETS AT HARROW
(9" x 12")

The Harrow School in England is credited with the invention of the game of squash racquets. In the late 1800's, while waiting to enter the hard racquets court, the boys playing in the courtyard of the Headmaster's house invented a soft "squashy" ball to avoid breaking windows.

THE BELVEDERE RACQUETS COURT
(16" x 12")

The single wall version of racquets quickly expanded outside of the Debtor's Prison and was most popular in the early 1800's in Ireland. This print depicts a 45' high wall and four men are playing within a designated area 45' x 60' long.



THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURT OF THE NEW YORK RACQUET CLUB
(12" x 9")

By the early part of this century, racquets and squash racquets were becoming firmly established as the excellent games they are now known to be. This print illustrates active play being observed by several interested observers in the gallery.



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SKYLINE WORLD MASTERS

TALBOTT ENDS SEASON ON A WINNING NOTE

BY CHRISTIAN ENDEMANN

Mark Talbott proved again that he has no peer as a hardball performer, when he captured the Skyline World Masters of Squash Tournament in Toronto in early May. He disposed of number two ranked Ned Edwards in the final, 15-12, 15-12, 15-13.

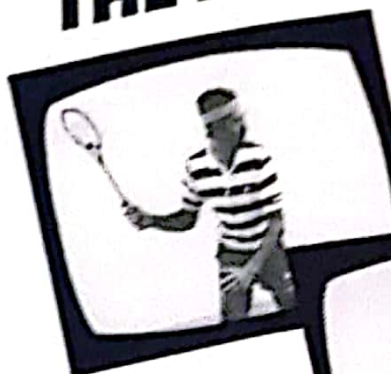
While Edwards battled gamely and tried to upset the rhythm of his smaller but fleetier opponent, Talbott simply bore down at crucial stages in the match, winning the big points when he needed to. It is a measure of his dominance that he won 15 of the 19 singles events on the 1987-88 North American circuit. As further testament to his concentration and consistency, Talbott reached the semi-final three times and the final once in the other four events.

Edwards, 30, and a resident of New York City, certainly had his chances. In the first game he led 9-6 but Talbott, 28, and a Rhode Island denizen, ran off a string of six straight points to put Edwards back on the defensive. In the second game, Edwards once again jumped in front 6-4, but seven points later he was behind 11-7 as Talbott ran him ragged and started applying some pressure of his own. He not only stretched Edwards in every direction, but he also hit outright winners of his own. In fairness to Edwards, he once again drew on his resources and pulled up to 12-12 before Talbott ran out the game on his opponent's errors. In the third game, Talbott threatened to run away with the match as he led 7-3 and 12-9, but Edwards once again tapped his reserves and hit out boldly to even the match at 12. The score was then tied at 13 when Edwards ran out of steam.

After losing in the semi-final to Todd Binns at the North American Open in Toledo a week earlier, Talbott was clearly pleased to end the 1987-88 sea-

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son on a winning note. "This has been a very satisfying year for me. The matches are never easy and against Ned I have to play more aggressively because he has such fine length and power as well as great touch. I can't just stay and try to outsteady him because he is capable of hitting winners from anywhere on the court."

Talbott said he had made no specific plans for the summer except to give his squash game a prolonged rest and work on improving his golf.

Edwards, who tried to pump himself up by clenching his fist and scanning the crowd between points for additional encouragement, was philosophical about his loss to his good friend Talbott. "I have been in a bad slump the last few weeks and I have to believe that I was suffering from some kind of burn-out. But, I felt refreshed and ready for a good tournament to end the season and it was gratifying to reach the final."

In the semi-finals, Edwards had overpowered Mario Sanchez after a slow start, 9-15, 15-13, 15-11, 15-7, while Talbott had his hands full with the steadily improving tour sophomore, Kenton Jernigan, 15-11, 12-15, 17-15, 15-9. As Mexico's perennial number one player, the elegant Sanchez is still capable of giving the top



LOCAL FAVOURITE TODD BINNS ENTERTAINED CLUB MEMBERS UP TO THE QUARTER-FINALS. MARK TALBOTT WINS HIS 15TH EVENT AT THE SEASON ENDING SKYLINE WORLD MASTERS.

players fits on a given day, but it is Jernigan who now appears to be the most likely heir apparent to the crown

now resting firmly on Talbott's head. "Kenton has made a lot of improvement this year and, given his form over

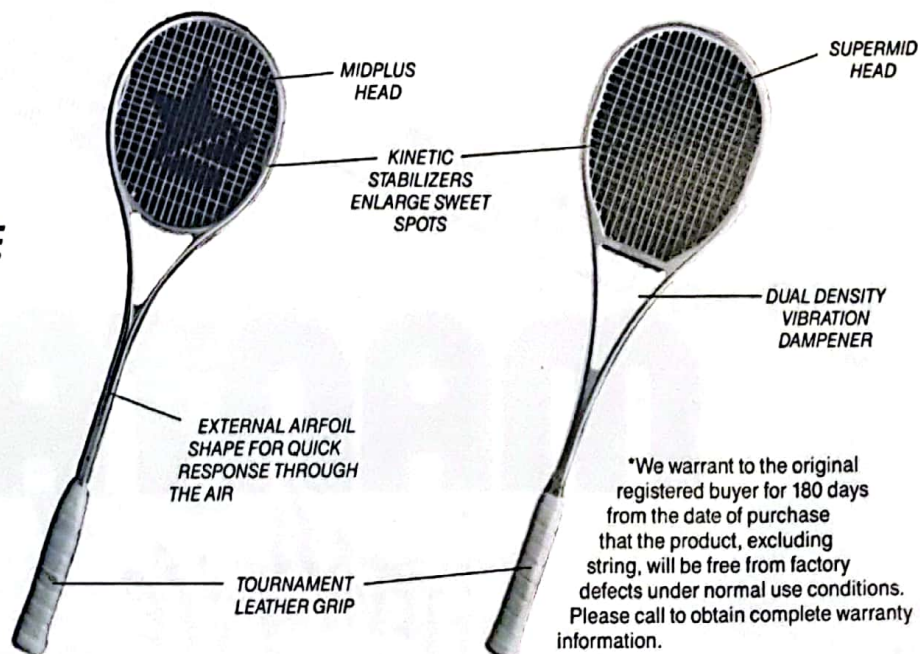
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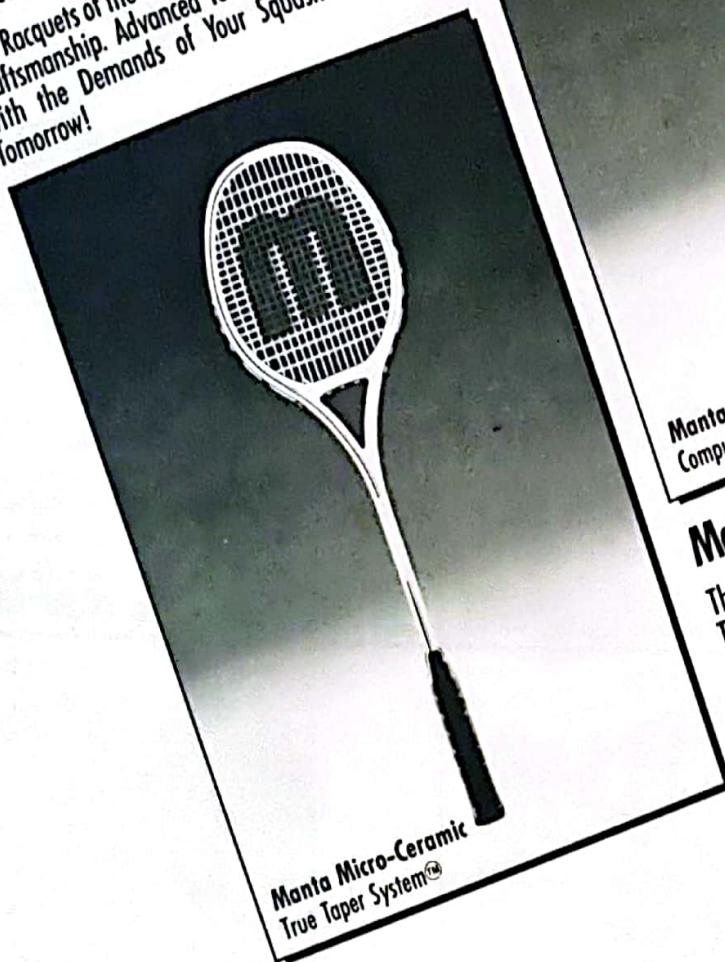


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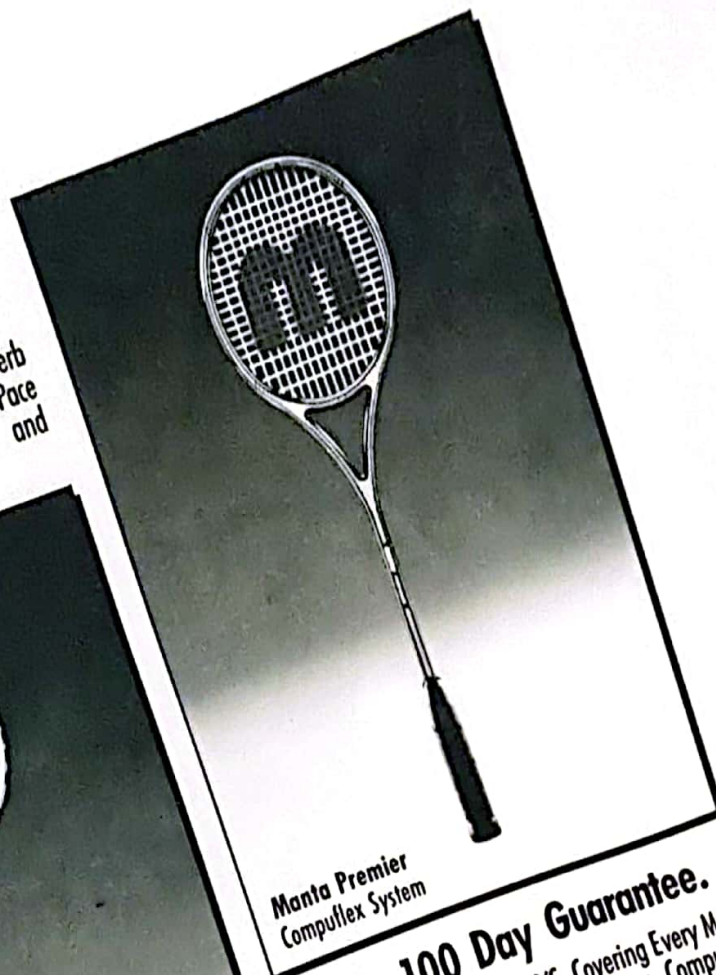
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the past few weeks, he now seems capable of winning a tournament anytime. He is going to be even tougher next season," remarked the ever-gracious Talbott.

In the quarter-finals, Jernigan had avenged last year's loss to Todd Binns — a spine tinger that went to 18-17 in the fifth — by upsetting the local favourite and number four seed 10-15, 15-11, 15-12, 15-8. Jernigan will finish in the number six spot in the final rankings behind Sanchez, Binns, Nimick, Edwards and Talbott.

The Skyline event, which is played on a 21' wide court with a 16 man draw, also produced some early round surprises. Toronto's Alan Grant, the W.P.S.A. rookie of the year in 1985, but now better known as a doubles player, turned the tables on Montreal's Alex Doucas in a marathon match, 15-12, 8-15, 18-15, 12-15, 18-16.

Mario Sanchez blasted number three seed John Nimick 15-6, 15-11, 15-6 in the quarters. Nimick said he did not feel his lacklustre performance was due to a letdown following his North American title win the week before, as much as his inability to adjust to the wider court and higher tin. Even the usually unflappable Talbott was given a scare in the first round by Aziz Khan, a 35 year-old qualifier who, by his own admission, feels his future lies with the over 35 squash legends tournament. Khan split the first two games and was leading in the third but ultimately lost 15-13, 7-15, 15-14, 15-5, as he could not sustain his mid-match patch of brilliance.

The season finale has always been one of the most popular events on the tour. It regularly attracts the best W.P.S.A. players and has in the past also enticed top I.S.P.A. performers such as Jahangir Khan, Chris Dittmar and Ricki Hill. While the total prize money of \$20,000 U.S. with \$4,000 going to the winner and \$3,000 to the runner-up, is not an irresistible purse, Skyline Club owner Ralph Gardiner imparts a special and highly personal flavour to these championships. Not only are the competitors given complimentary hotel accommodation, but the club creates a special ambiance for them during their visit. While the matches are covered by the print media and cable television, every effort is made to generate an atmosphere of non-commercial intimacy.

Sponsorship for this year's event was supplied exclusively by club members. Squash courts are converted into cozy lounges where players and spectators

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mingle over buffet meals and post-match refreshments. But, according to the players — both Edwards and Talbott spoke glowingly in this regard after their final — the piece de resistance is the black tie dinner dance which features a minimum of speeches and instead emphasizes fine dining, dancing and cabaret-style entertainment.

"This is the only tournament on the circuit that features a formal evening of this kind and we players really feel it adds tone and class to what is already a super week," observed Talbott in his post-match comments to the crowd. ●



DENMARK IS GEARING UP FOR MASTERS GAMES

As many of you will recall, Toronto hosted the inaugural World Masters Games in August 1985. Those of you who participated in the squash competitions will remember it as one of the highlights of their squash careers. As promised over three years ago, the event will be held in Denmark next summer. Squash is one of more than 50 different sports which are expected to attract 20,000 participants.

The dates are July 22nd through August 6th, 1989. The squash competitions are being played in the city of Arhus, the largest of the three hosting cities. It is planned that the squash events will be played over the first week of the sporting festival. Competition is available for men and women aged 35 and over as of the first day of competition. Competition is available in age classes in five year increments up to and including 55+. There will be individual and team (2 men & 1 woman) events, all using the soft ball on international squash courts.

Many squash players have sent away for more information. A touring delegation advises that sport specific entry forms will be sent to these individuals no later than November. Further information is available through Pedersen World Tours Inc., #808-100 University Avenue, Toronto M5J 1V6. Telephone (416) 595-0905. ●

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SQUASH UNDER A TROPICAL SUN

BY CHRISTINA GRAMAROSSA

Thursday, July 7 was not a normal day at Jamaica's Liqueana Club. Almost unnoticed was the arrival of seven junior players from Barbados, Trinidad, and Grand Cayman, or the four Guyanese three days earlier. Not surprisingly, their sixteen Canadian opponents made a somewhat difficult entrance. In fact the Jamaica debut of those "lively" juniors will undoubtedly be felt, seen, heard, and remembered long after their week-long visit.

Cab-Can, the Caribbean-Canadian International Youth Squash Tournament took place in Kingston, Jamaica July 8 to 10. It was a first in many respects. Most importantly it was the first time a competition of such magnitude and sponsorship would be held on a junior level in the Caribbean.

For the tournament organizers it was a challenge to say the least. Coordinating players from Canada and five Caribbean nations was no easy task. Keeping them orderly, punctual, and entertained should be left to those who generally have masochistic tendencies.

The tournament was a success! Each player was given a good range of competition in his five matches making it a worthwhile trip for all the participants. This was not overwhelmingly appreciated by some of the Canadians who suffered from heat exhaustion and had to be resuscitated by the physiotherapist assigned to the tournament by the Sports Medicine Association of Jamaica.

The overall winner was the #1 seed Roger Arjoon of Guyana. No opponent presented a serious challenge to Arjoon who proved the fact by winning every game of his five matches. Jamaica's number 2 junior, Joey Levy finished second.

The \$15,000 budget event had four co-sponsors, each backing its own internationally mixed team. After a constant shuffle, the Air Canada team flew easily above the rest to take first place. Hedonism II, whose special interest in squash is highlighted by its annual Pro Sport Clinic hosting Edwards and Talbott, took second place in the team category. Following closely behind for third place was Scotiabank Jamaica Ltd. Jamaica's Facey Commodity Company took fourth. ●

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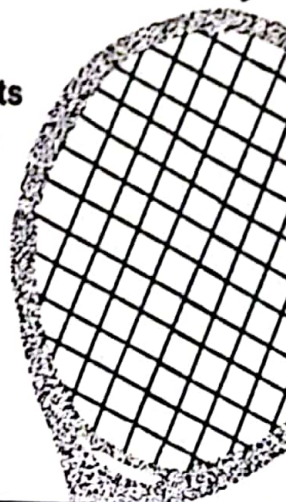
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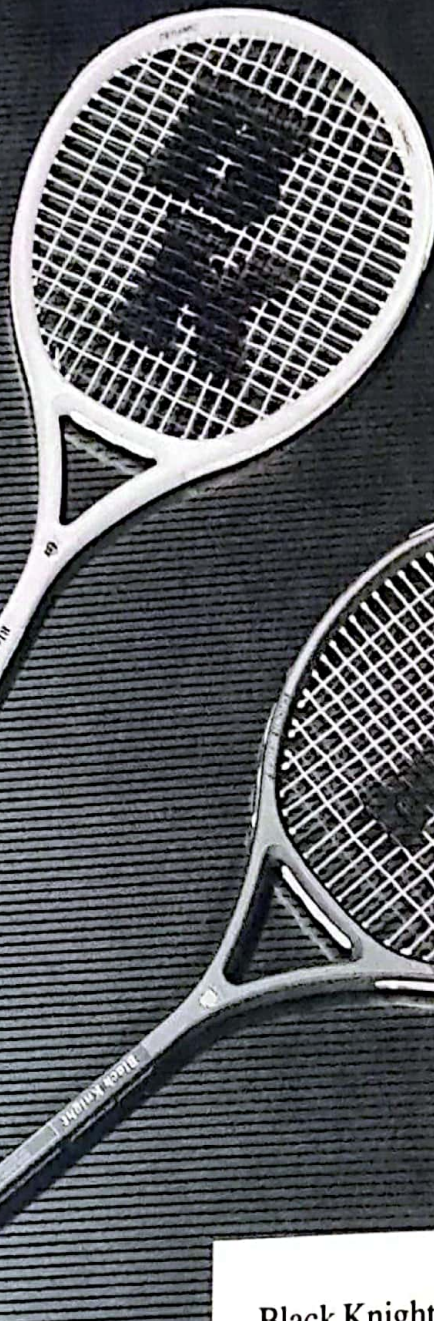
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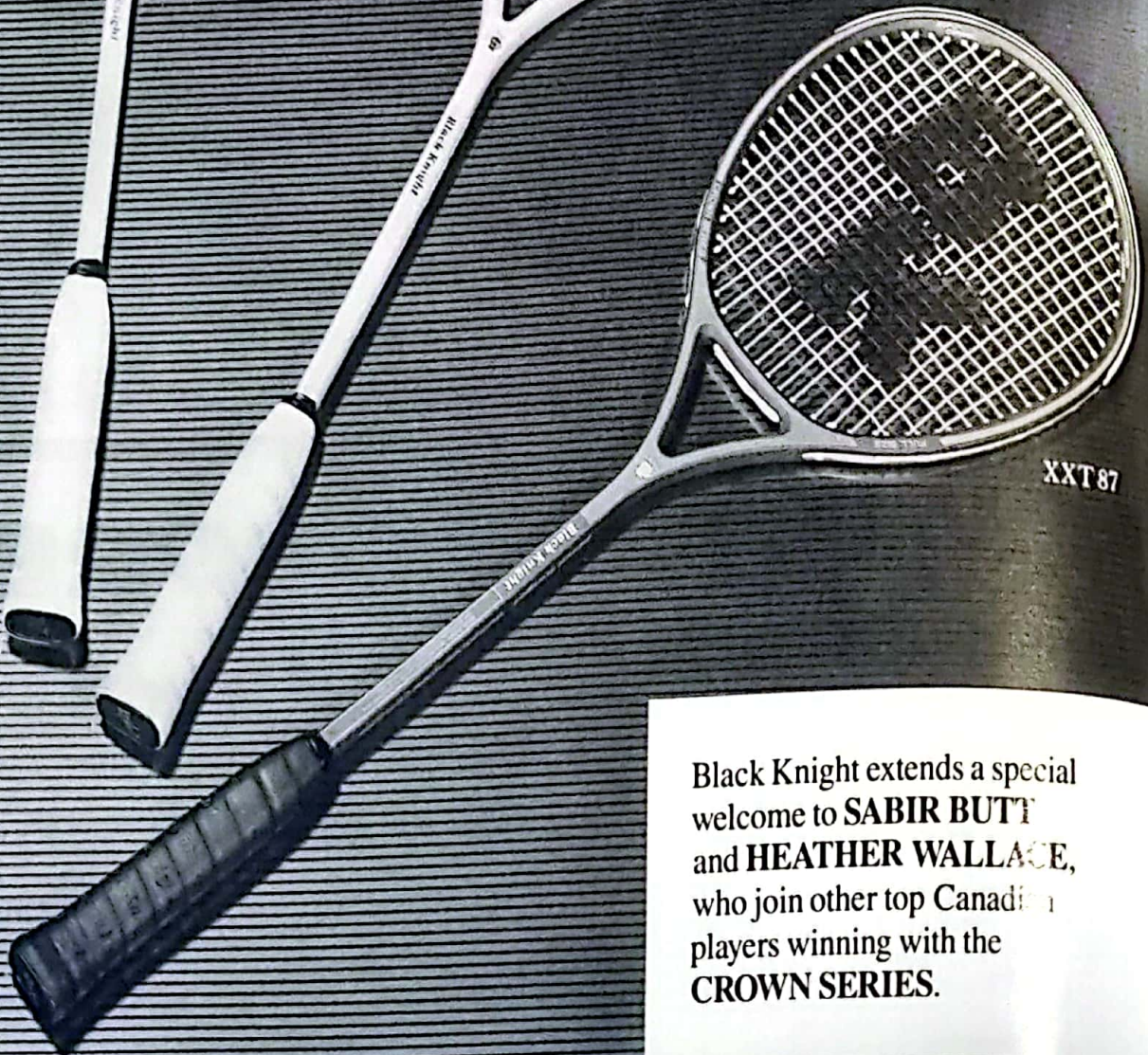
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THE FUTURE "SPARKLES" THANKS TO MARTINI & ROSSI!

Another squash season is upon us and soon the familiar smell of Ben Gay will be permeating locker rooms as the players return from the summer hiatus.

Squash Ontario has been working over the summer to address several important issues — some of which arose last season and some as a result of a very successful and well attended annual meeting in June.

The Charity Challenge, which has been in operation for ten years and is easily Ontario's — in fact — Canada's, largest tournament, required a sponsor. The event attracts approximately 3,000 entrants annually and is geared toward the grassroots players of the province. We are very pleased to announce that Martini & Rossi have agreed to be the corporate sponsor of this year's event. We are very excited about working with Martini & Rossi on this project and look forward to a long and mutually profitable relationship.

It is a difficult chore running a tournament of this magnitude and any assist-

ance which the club owners, players and regional executives can provide to make this year's event successful will be most appreciated.

The theme behind the tournament has changed slightly this year. As you are no doubt aware, funding for sports is constantly being reviewed by the government but the costs of running our programmes continue to escalate. In addition, new programmes for development of the game are needed and it is incumbent on our organization to become as self-sufficient as possible. To this end, we have made the tournament a fund raising event for squash.

I mentioned in earlier columns that squash has been accepted into the 1991 Canada Games and will probably be a demonstration sport at the Olympics in Barcelona in 1991. If we are to prepare our young athletes and raise the overall level of the game, we need funds. It is our sincere hope that everyone involved in squash will support this tournament and its sponsor, Martini & Rossi, in order to

achieve our goals.

One definite need which came out of discussions at the Annual June meeting was the necessity of creating a committee to deal specifically with juniors — programmes, tournaments, etc. Ed Mitchell who has been heavily involved in junior squash in both Nova Scotia and more recently, in Ottawa and District, has agreed to act as chairman. Anyone interested in providing input should contact the Squash Ontario office.

We were hoping to hold a planning forum in October at which we could set some specific goals and objectives for the association over the next several years. Unfortunately, the funding for this forum was cut from our Ministry budget and we did not feel that we could incur the cost without some government support. We will attempt to take a modified approach to gathering this information and will advise you later of our progress.

Jan Atkinson, who needs no introduction to anyone who has picked up a squash racquet, has resigned her position as of September 2nd. Squash Ontario has had the benefit of Jan's abilities for over seven years and she will be sorely missed. On behalf of all those involved in squash, I extend my best wishes to Jan in her new career.

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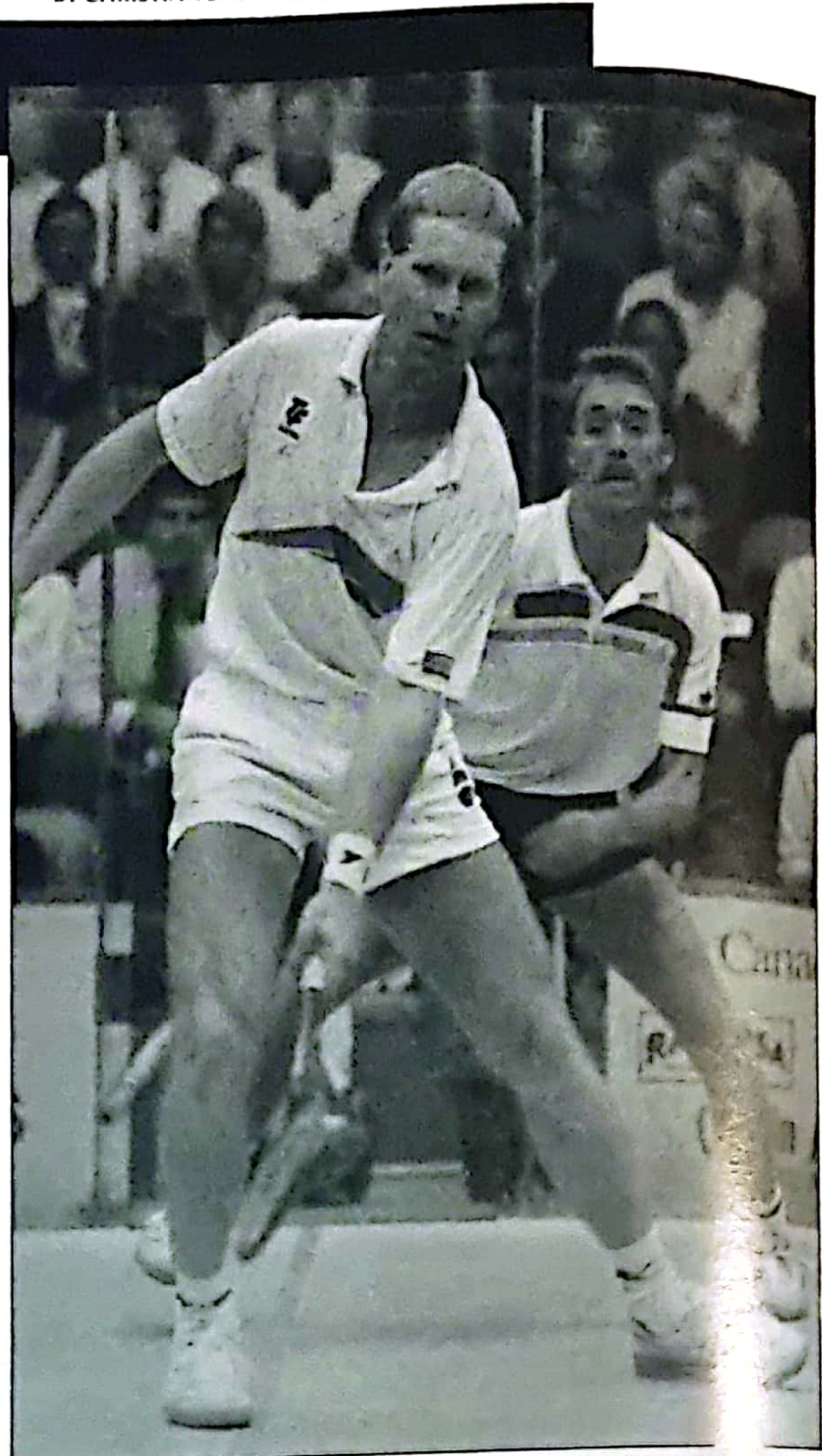
BY CHRISTIAN ENDEMANN

The fourth annual Canadian Open Squash Championship will be held at the Curzons Sporting Club in Etobicoke, from October 24th through 30th. Since the deadline for entries is early October, a full list of official participants cannot be provided yet. The stellar quality of the draw has in the past included the very top players on the Grand Prix circuit. Former champions include two-time winner Jahangir Khan of Pakistan and Australia's Chris Dittmar, who captured the title last year.

Roger Eady, Executive Director of the International Squash Rackets Federation (I.S.R.F.), speaks highly of the Canadian Open. "In a relatively short time, this event has become one of the most prestigious in the world. We, at the I.S.R.F., are encouraged by the growing strength of the soft ball game in North America, particularly in Canada. This tournament gives us access to a dynamic new market."

The 32-man field will be competing at the recently refurbished Curzons Sporting Club which is strategically located on the Toronto airport strip. It features a four-sided glass centre court with "twin-view" glass, permanent theatre-style seating and overhanging gondolas.

Curzons will also host the qualifying rounds on October 18th through 20th. Sixteen players will compete for the final four spots in the main draw. The tournament, which has been sanctioned by the Canadian Squash Rackets Association, is being presented and promoted by Beddington Sports Management Inc. Tournament Chairman, John Beddington, feels the event has now become an entrenched fixture

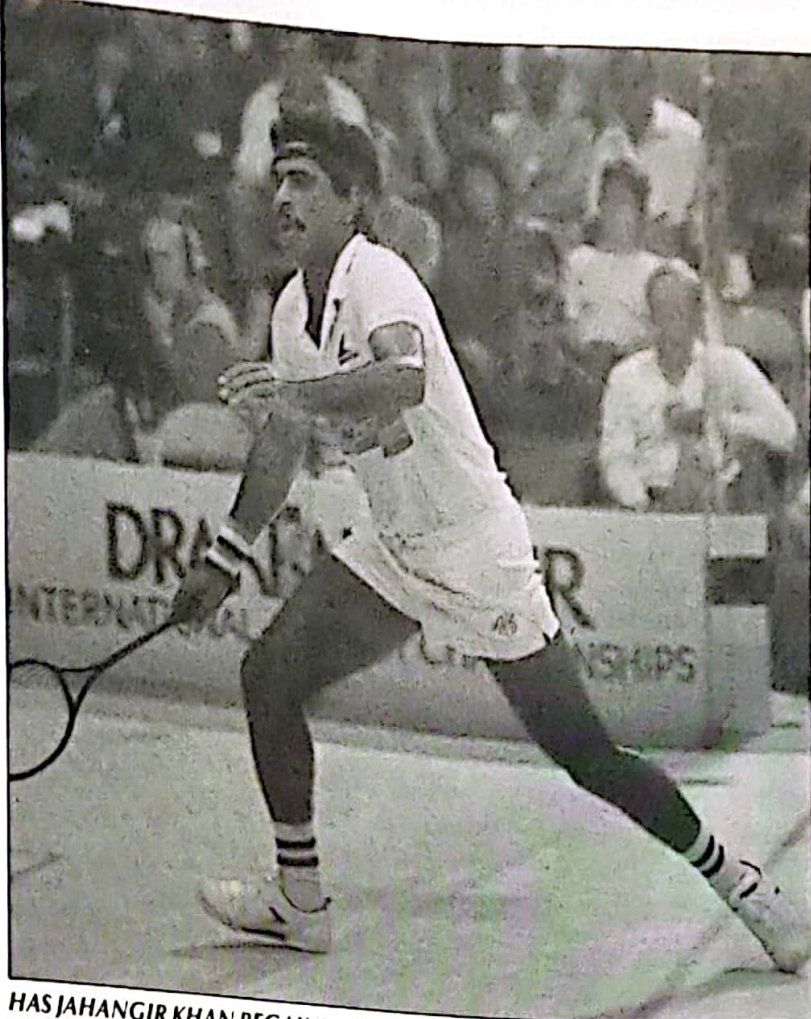


WILL CHRIS DITTMAR BE ABLE TO DEFEND HIS CANADIAN OPEN TITLE?

on the International Squash Players Association (I.S.P.A.) tour. "I was initially surprised by the strong response the Canadian Open received, but Toronto is generally regarded as the Mecca for squash world-wide. I think the players recognize that squash thrives here at both the participation and competition levels. Naturally, this kind of knowledgeable ambiance lends itself to the increasing support for and appreciation of the high quality performances you get at international-class professional matches."

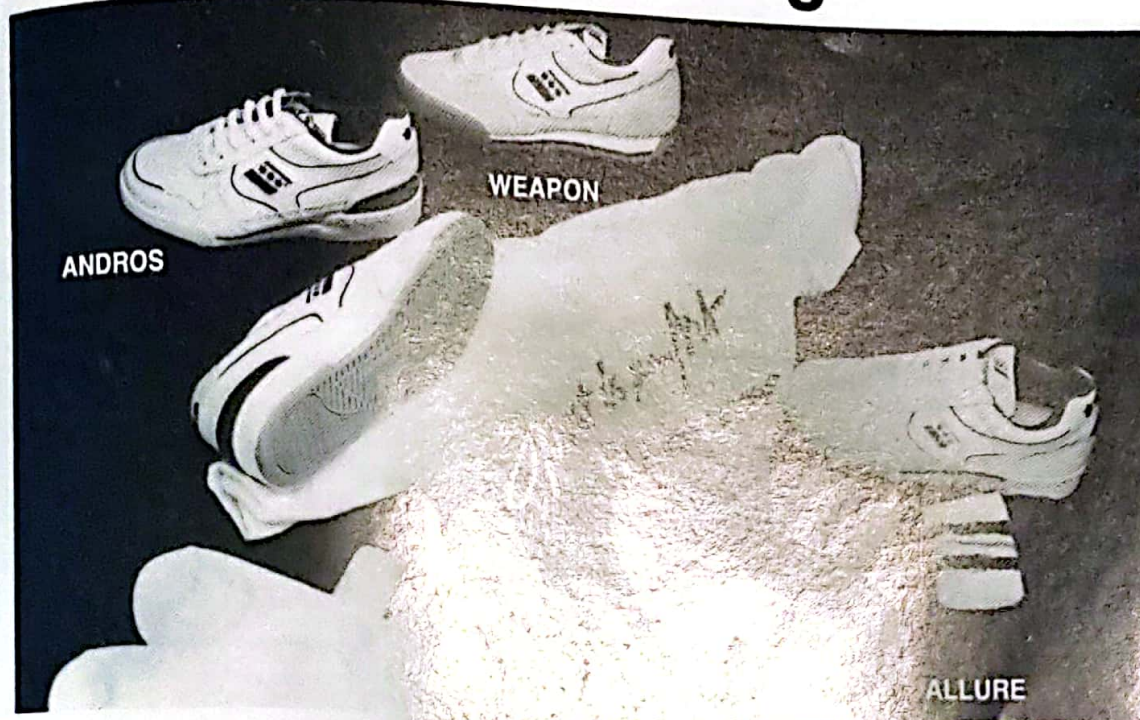
Dittmar, the outspoken number three player on the I.S.P.A. totem pole, corroborates Beddington's sentiments. "There is no question that we all look forward to playing in Toronto. Canadians really enjoy the game and all the media attention, particularly the television coverage, gives our sport a big boost here. On top of that, the players get treated very well by the tournament organizers and the prize money has always been generous. Most of the blokes would like to play here more often."

For further information regarding corporate packages, box seats and series tickets, call (416) 489-3307. For other tickets and information during the event, call (416) 674-5313. ●



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SQUASH LIFE 25

CANADIAN SQUASH ENTERS NEW ERA

During the 1988-89 season the Canadian Squash Racquets Association will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary before undergoing a major change in structure and image. Founded in 1913 by members of three clubs in Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton, the C.S.R.A. is, according to the best information available, the oldest organized squash racquets association in the world. The venerable SRA of England was not established until a full fifteen years later.

The first Canadian national championship was held in 1912, one year prior to the organization of the C.S.R.A. This national championship appears to have been preceded only by the first national championships (amateur) of South Africa (1906), and the United States (1907). In the beginning almost all play was exclusively under the North American rules, developed in

the U.S.

Despite its early start in the game, Canadian squash did not begin to boom until the mid-seventies when the international game gained wide acceptance. Participation grew by over 500% during the next ten years, with over 95% of all play in the international game. Canada is now one of the five most active nations in the world.

To celebrate its 75 years, the C.S.R.A. has organized a gala dinner, September 16, in Toronto, with all the key individuals involved in the sport's history in Canada being invited. In addition, the Association has produced a special commemorative pin, as well as sweaters, vests and golf shirts. A special historical section will be included in the September issue of the Association's newsmagazine, *Canadian Squash*. Numerous other activities will be held across the country during the season

which will focus on the 75th Anniversary.

At the end of the year, the C.S.R.A. will phase out of existence and a new organization will be born under the name of SQUASH CANADA. The Association will also be moving its offices to a newly constructed National Sport and Recreation Centre in December, 1988.

Linked to the change in name will be a change in organizational structure and image as laid out in a comprehensive long-range plan, which was finalized at the Association's Annual General Meeting in June. All areas have been addressed, with particular emphasis on marketing, promotion and fundraising, as well as general organizational review. Ambitious plans for an exciting new era in Canadian Squash. ●

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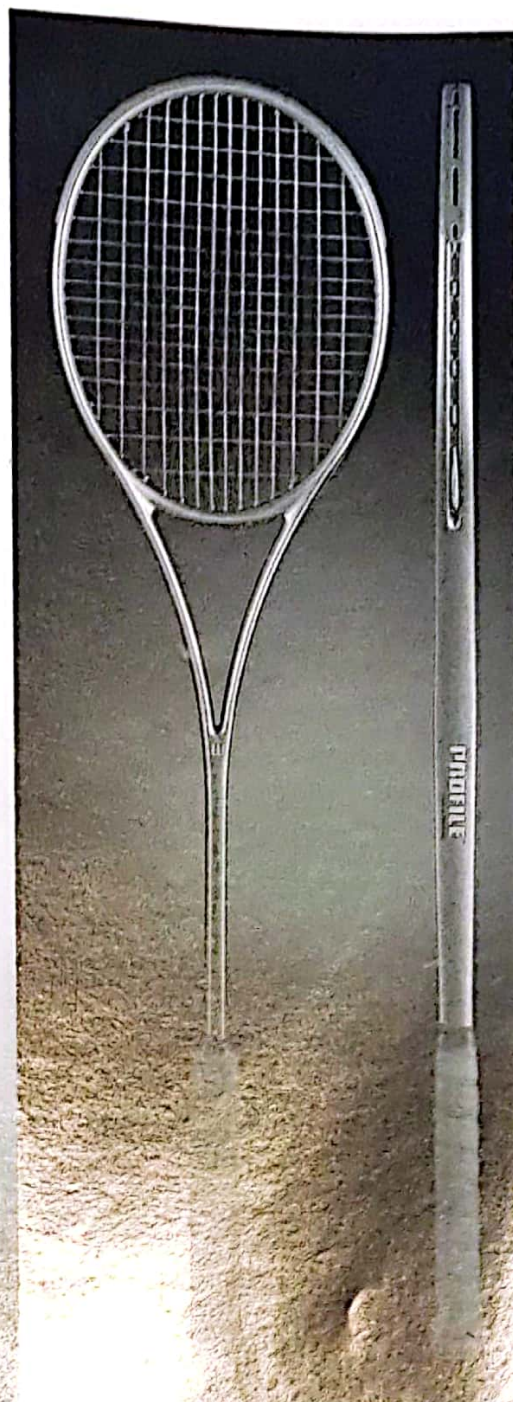
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Pine Valley Racquets Club operates from the same address (4190 Steeles Avenue West) previously occupied by Steeles West Racquets Club and the Partners West Racquet Club. Rob Brooks, the pro/manager of Pine Valley explained the differences between the new club and its two predecessors. "The previous two clubs tried to offer everything, from aerobic classes, executive fitness testing, complete weight training, basketball, and volleyball, in addition to the racquet sports. Perhaps they stretched themselves too thin in an effort to please everyone."

Pine Valley intends to concentrate strictly on squash and racquetball and the social camaraderie surrounding these sports. The bar and restaurant, which serves lunch and dinner, provide an enjoyable area to drink and eat while viewing both sports. The walls in the lounge area are dotted by photographs of members at play and make dining a treat for the eyes as well as the palate.

Pine Valley will be adding an eighth international squash court with a glass back wall in September. This will complete its squash section and provide a viewing court. The club also offers a fitness room for off-court training.

The squash and racquetball house leagues will provide the backbone of the new club. Rob Brooks, who was the co-ordinator of the house leagues at Partners West, recalls that they had the largest combined squash and racquetball house league in the Toronto area, with 266 players in squash and 90 in racquetball. The leagues includes the competitive Toronto & District league



PINE VALLEY; A NEW HOME FOR LOCAL SQUASH ENTHUSIASTS.

players as well as rank beginners. They provide a natural progression for players of all calibres to improve their skills.

Pine Valley will field a full contingent of teams in the Toronto & District squash and racquetball leagues in both men's and women's divisions this fall. The club will also host weekend tournaments. The novice players can attend

instructional round robins in order to improve their games.

This space is reserved for member clubs of Squash Ontario. We invite clubs to participate by sending in 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. ●

SQUASH



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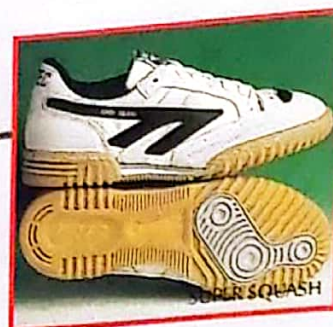
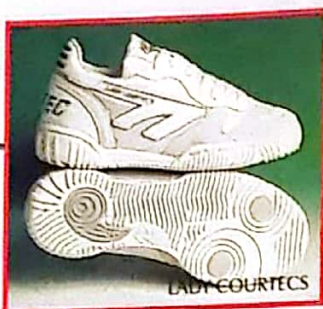
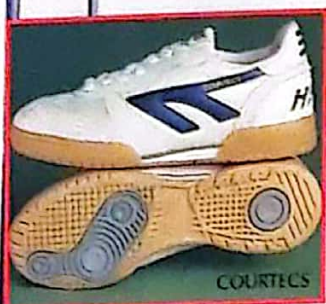


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