

SQUASH

compliments of Squash Ontario

Life

superb shots and incredible rallies lead to another trophy for Power

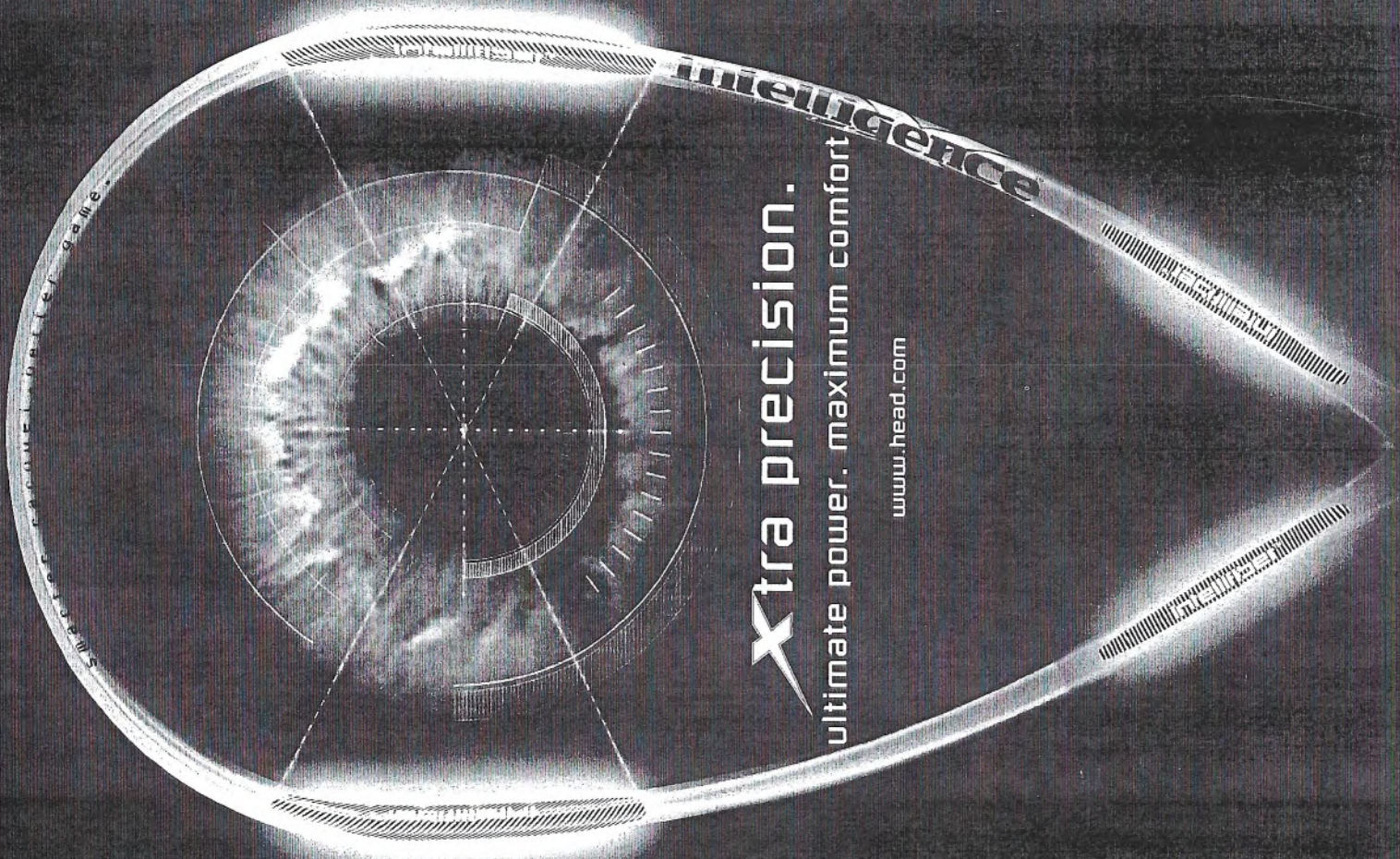
Gerry Shugar looking back

another hurdle for varsity squash

...and much more

The official magazine of
SQUASH ONTARIO





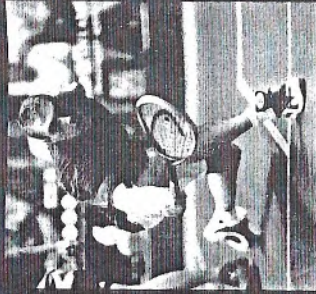
Xtra precision.
ultimate power. maximum comfort.

www.head.com

HEAD Intelligence X makes your game as powerful as you see it in your mind's eye. We all visualize a perfect shot. HEAD Intelligence X gives you the ability to actually do it. You can focus your power with Xtra precision to place shots exactly as you visualize. HEAD intelligifibers™ are now located in both the racquet head and the throat. While the ball is still on the strings, HEAD intelligifibers™ stiffen and stabilize the racquet head and throat for unprecedented power and Xtra precision.

HEAD
intelligence

smarter racquet. better game.



David Palmer (RUS) > World Champion '02



Carol Owens (NZL) > World's #1*



Nathalie Pohrer (USA) > #1* USA



Rachel Grinham (RUS) > World Team Champion '02



Natalie Grinham (RUS) > World Team Champion '02



Jari Tuominen (FIN) > #1* Finland



Pamela Nimmo (SCO) > #1* Scotland

*Nov. 02 WISPIPSR Rankings

SQUASH *Life*

VOLUME 28
NUMBER 1

Rob Brooks
PRESIDENT

Barry Farstad
VICE PRESIDENT

Stephanie Hewitt
VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Sachvie
VICE PRESIDENT

Lolly Gillen
VICE PRESIDENT

Robbie Osher
VICE PRESIDENT

Peter Ward
PAST PRESIDENT

Sherry Funston
MANAGING EDITOR

Roman Lehecka
ART & DESIGN

Advertising

SHERRY FUNSTON FOR SQUASH ONTARIO
1185 EGLINTON AVENUE EAST
TORONTO ON M3C 3C6

Printed by Dollico Printing

SQUASH *Life*

C/O SQUASH ONTARIO
1185 EGLINTON AVENUE EAST
TORONTO ON M3C 3C6
TELEPHONE: 416-426-7201
FAX: 416-426-7393

E-MAIL: sq.ont.sherry@sympatico.ca
squashontario.com

Squash Life is published three times a year by Squash Ontario to give voice to and promote squash in Ontario. 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 to Squash Life and author.

The views expressed in Squash Life are not necessarily those of Squash Ontario.

Over 5,000 copies of Squash Life are distributed on a complimentary basis to 200 member facilities in the province and direct mailed to all individual members of Squash Ontario as well as to a number of clubs and associations across Canada.

Printed in Canada 🍁

contents

fall 2003

feature

- 4 jonathon power thrills and wins**
Pace Credit Union Canadian Squash Classic

essentials

- 6 masters squash**
reminiscences of a squash veteran
- 10 squash...it's our racquet**
vital news and developments around Ontario
- 14 junior squash**
news, stories and results about our juniors
- 17 university scene**
squash on a level playing field???



cover photo of Jonathon Power by Hugh Maclean

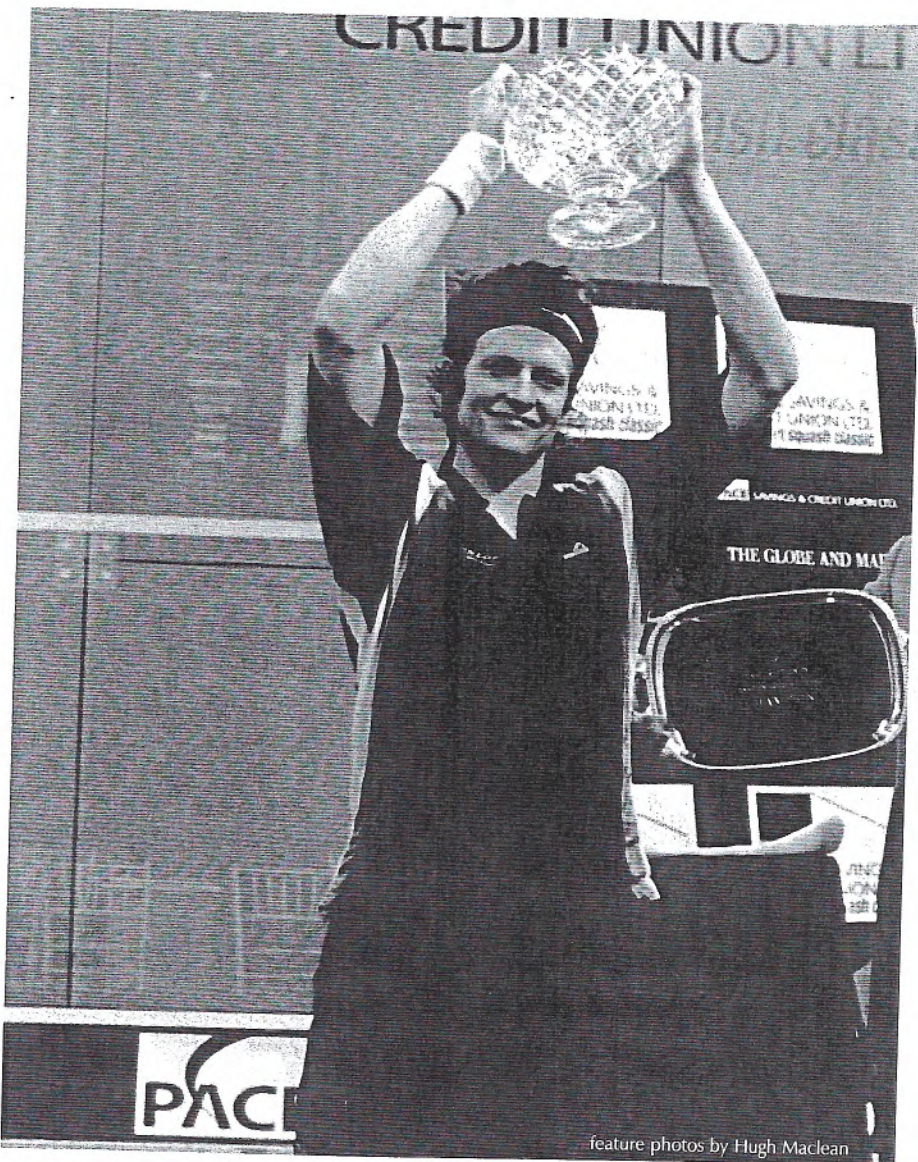
Jonathon Power wins Pace Credit Union Canadian Squash Classic

**...in five games to
defeat Australia's
David Palmer**

Defending champion and hometown favourite Jonathon Power battled third-seed David Palmer from Australia in a five-game nail-biter to win the final match of the US \$40,000 Pace Credit Union Canadian Squash Classic at BCE Place in Toronto. Power defeated Palmer 15-4, 12-15, 15-8, 10-15, 15-12 before a very supportive capacity crowd.

Power took the lead early in the first game and didn't look back, winning 15-4 in a game characterized by superb shot making and incredible rallies. In the second game, David Palmer took an early 5-0 lead and won 15-12 in a game that Power let slip away.

"In the second game I just lost concentration. I got a bad start, my back was hurting and I was thinking about it and I lost concentration," said Power. "If I could have closed out the sec-



feature photos by Hugh Maclean

ond game I could have won in three, but he got in there and made it a tough fight from there on out." And a tough fight it was, with numerous twists, tangles and collisions.

Power dominated the third game 15-8, but Palmer came back to take the fourth. In the final game, Power disputed a call and was penalized a point, dropping 4-6. Power battled back in front of the rallying crowd with deft soft corner shots and diving returns to win 15-12.

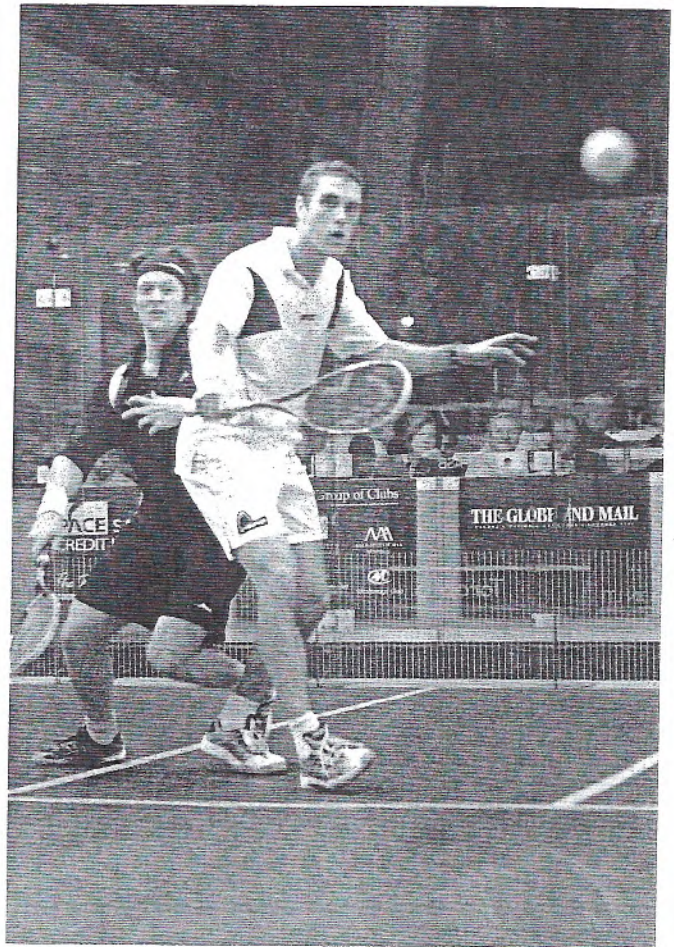
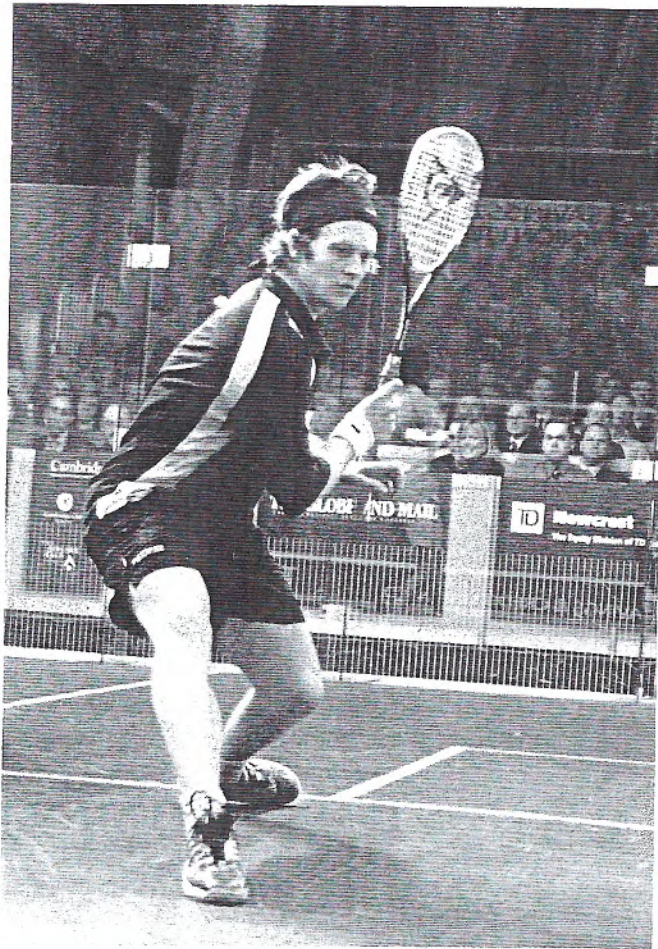
"I wanted to play my game and move well," said an exhausted but thrilled Power. "I knew that if I played well, I could take him so I just settled down and played my game and that's what happened. Getting those few points at the end helped. I found a rhythm in the fifth game."

David Palmer saw things somewhat differently. "I'm pretty happy with how I played but I'm disappointed the way he plays. I'm playing as fair as I can and I still feel I'm getting disad-

vantaged by the way he plays. It showed tonight and it's disappointing. If he chooses to play that way, that's the way he plays. He doesn't play the ball. Every time I play an attacking-type shot, he doesn't want to play the ball."

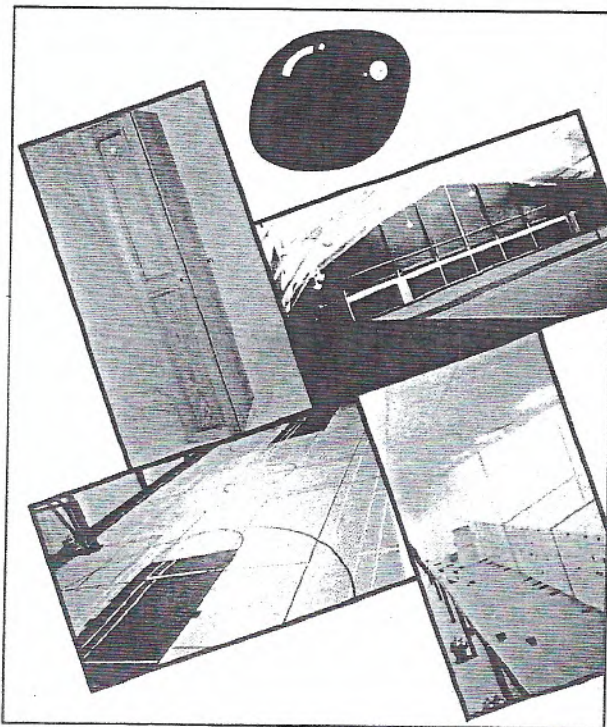
The hometown crowd was obviously behind Power. "When you're suffering physically and you're really feeling tired, that type of stuff pushes you to grit your teeth and push and dig deep," said Power. "This is where I grew up playing and I feel comfortable here, and where I feel comfortable, that's usually where I play well. And I'm happy to win, obviously, in my home town."

Power thanked the capacity crowd upon winning the tournament. "The squash community in Toronto has always been very good to me and very supportive. Thanks for coming out and pushing me through in those last tough points. I needed that. Believe me." ©



Playcon

Squash Court Specialists



- **WSF Accredited Court Panel**
- **Court Construction and Repairs**
- **Court Restoration and Relines**
- **Court Glass and Floors**
- **Court Conversions - Racquetball to Squash**
- **Aerobics and Gymnasium Flooring**
- **Weightroom Flooring**
- **Woodline Lockers**
- **Bio90 Squash Court Wall Cleaner**

Contact Mike Taylor at Playcon
for complete information:
275 Arnold Street
Kitchener ON N2H 6E8
Phone: (519) 743-8132
Fax: (519) 743-3551



e-mail: T@playcon.com • website: www.playcon.com

MAKE THE PLAY... TAKE THE PSA



Squash Ontario and PACE Credit Union have partnered to promote prostate cancer awareness. Prostate cancer is a silent epidemic. It's silent because in it's early, more curable stages, there are no symptoms. A man's only sure way of avoiding progression of the disease is to adopt a personal prevention strategy.

The strategy is a two-pronged attack:

1. Lifestyle adjustment (especially dietary)
2. Early detection through testing (a physical exam and PSA test)

The PSA (prostate-specific antigen) is a blood test that many credit with saving their lives. A single high-test result may mean nothing, but a pattern of rising PS numbers will alert your doctor to a potential problem. The Canadian Urological Association - the surgical specialists - recommends an annual PS test starting at 50 years of age or at 40 for a man with a family history or who is of caribbean or african descent. This means that beginning at 40, men should discuss a prostate exam with their doctor.

For each player over 40 who takes a PSA test and completes the form you'll find at your club, **Squash Ontario will send you a specially designed golf shirt - no cost.**

For more information on prostate cancer, visit www.prostate-cancer.ca

MAYFAIR HOSTS PACE PROS AND JUNIORS

About 50 Ontario juniors got an opportunity of a lifetime in November when they went on court with one of their squash idols. Pros from the PACE Classic visited Mayfair Lakeshore and shared tips and strategies with these young players. Thanks to Barbara Cooper and Mayfair Lakeshore for hosting this event.



centre court racquet shop

New Ownership

Squash • Tennis • Badminton

- Racquets • Apparel • Footwear
- Accessories • Bags & More

Brand names include:

- Dunlop • Head • Wilson • Prince
- Blacknight • Babolat • Yonex

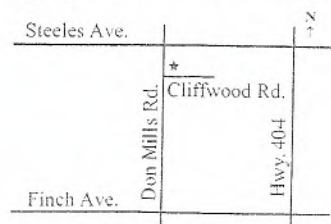
20 years experience in stringing & repairs

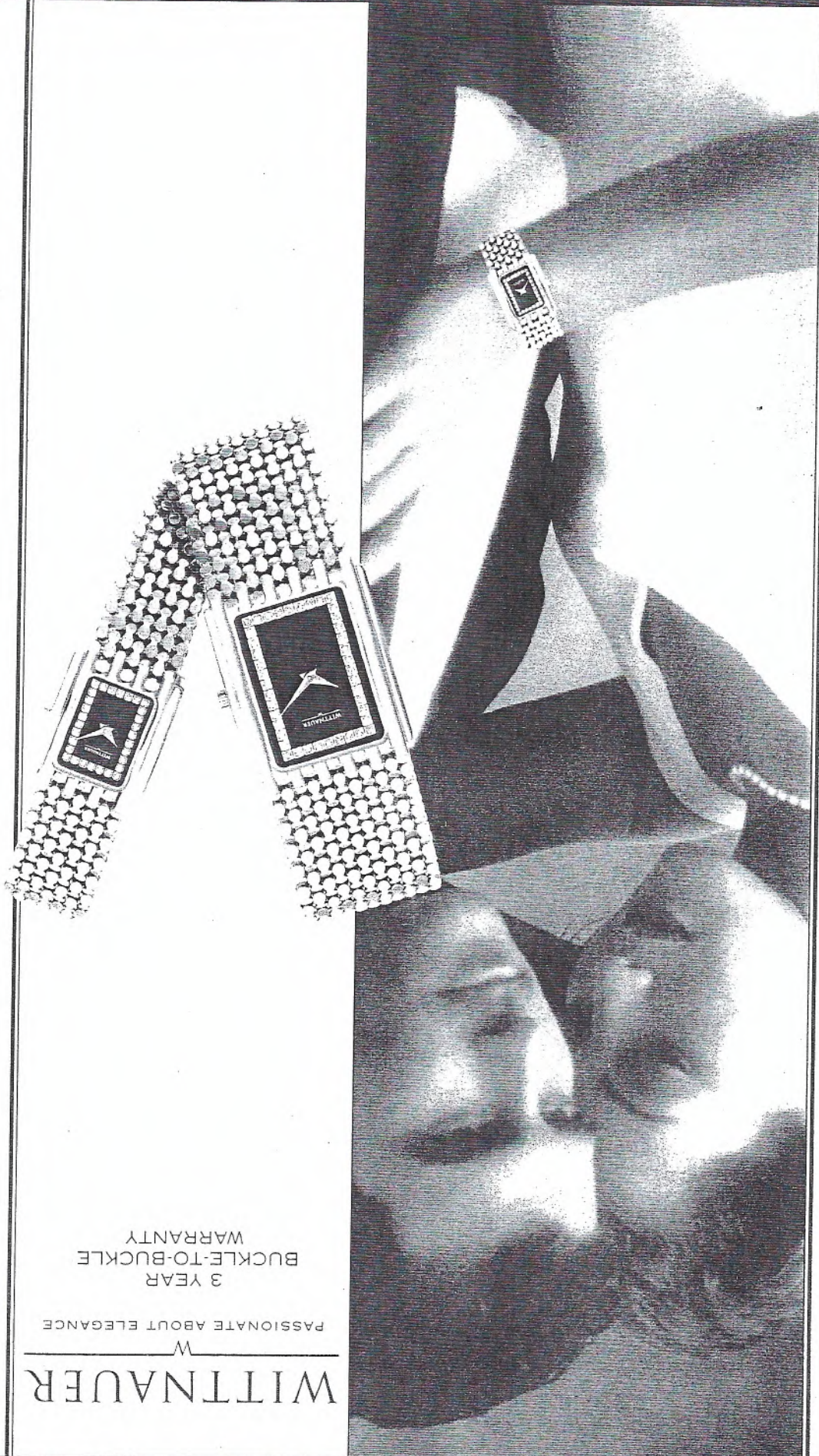
Demo program / Free consultation

Bring this Ad & save 10% on reg. priced merchandise

Mon - Fri 9:30 - 6:30
Saturday 9:30 - 5:00
Sunday Closed

3883 Don Mills Road
416-491-7897





PASSIONATE ABOUT ELEGANCE
3 YEAR
BUCKLE-TO-BUCKLE
WARRANTY

W
WITTNAUER

reminiscences of a squash veteran

BY GERRY SHUGAR



I started playing squash in Detroit in 1966 at age 30. My first lessons were from Hashim Khan, who had found an American home at the Detroit Athletic Club. Eleven years later in 1977, I played the first of two exhibition matches at the Cambridge Club in Toronto against Hashim. Before the first match I asked Clive Caldwell, the club pro, what the protocol was for an exhibition match. "Do I have to try to make the match? If I'm ahead towards the end do I try to win?" Clive said, "Hashim is the best squash player of all time. It's his job to make the exhibition. If you're ahead and you have a chance to beat Hashim, you go for it." I won that match three love. The rematch was two years later. Hashim had asked for it. This time we went five. I was the dogged retriever and Hashim the brilliant shooter. He was one shot away from winning, but stroked that shot into the top of the tin. "You not beat Hashim. Hashim beat self."

The year before that, as I approached forty, I went to Heather McKay. "Heather, teach me how to play softball. I really want to win the Canadian National Championship." She did, and I did, beating George Morfit in four in Calgary. 1976 was the last time the Canadian Softball was played on the narrow American court. When I defended it next year, against Mike Johnston (a 3-1 win), Canadian squash had moved to the international court.

A similar change happened in hardball. My first win in the forty and over age group was in Montreal in 1977. We played with the seamless ball, a big hard energetic beast. The next year, I defended but the ball had changed to the 70+ which has remained the standard for hardball play. Driving to Montreal for that first hardball championship, I asked Jimmy Bentley how far I could get in the tournament. He said that I might get

to the semis. The American, Les Harding, the two time defending champion was in my half. Dick Radloff the top U.S. player was in the other half. Jimmy felt they would be too strong for me. In the semis, Les almost was, going to a tough fifth game. In the finals, Dick went down in four and I had my first hardball championship. A casual comment by Jimmy Bentley in the car really helped in moments of doubt. I had mentioned I was carrying a little too much weight and Jimmy's comment was, "You're not too heavy. That's your power pack." And that's the way it turned out.

Over the years, I won 10 Canadian Hardball Championships, 11 Softball Nationals, 7 U.S. Nationals in Softball, and 7 in Hardball. I guess that's why I've been asked to write this piece.

What was my best championship streak? Six successive U.S. National Hardball victories from 1982 to 1987 at ages 45 to 50. In those 6 finals I lost only one game and the streak was topped off by a congratulatory letter from Lenny Bernhiemer, one of America's top masters squash players (fortunately not in my category). "There is no higher playing honor in our game than to wear the crown of National Champion. I know you'll cherish the victory forever."

How did Americans react to me winning all their championships? The Americans were remarkably generous to me. Over many years I was welcomed, cheered, encouraged, and praised by officials, competitors and other players. There was no resentment. I was especially proud that Henri Salaun, probably the best stro-

ker and tactician in the history of U.S. squash, one of the few ever to beat Hashim, and a man I had watched and studied on the court for years, started coming to watch me play. After one match where my opponent finally got a point in the last game, Henri remarked with his typical dry humor, "A little loss of concentration there, Gerry?"

Who were my best teachers? Early in my career I tried to get lessons from as many of the good coaches and players as I could. I kept notes on all my lessons and still refer back to them, including the notes I first took from Hashim. I got help from Jimmy Bentley, Ken Binns, Bill Noyes, Ralph Rimmer, Heather, Sharif Khan and Jonah Barrington. A number of them became my friends. Heather and I and Sharif and I would get each other ready for tournaments. Both of them had profound squash minds, and we spent many hours dissecting and bouncing ideas off one another.

What was my toughest loss? Zak Ezekowitz in 1987. Just in time for the Canadians, I came back from skiing in Alberta and Zak, whom I didn't know, arrived as well from Alberta. He had gone through months of scouting and intensive training and was waiting in the bushes for me. The finals lasted two hours. He won 10-8 in the fifth on a backwall nick.

What was my most satisfying comeback? It started in Denver in the finals of the U.S.S.R.A. Hardball Championships in 1988. I was up 2-1 when I ruptured a tendon in a tender wrist. It progressed to four wrist surgeries, a wrist fusion and partial nerve death. I tried playing left handed and found it to be an intolerable torment. After years I relearned squash - with no wrist. The test came in the U.S. National Softball Championships in 1997, in Newport, Rhode Island. To my surprise and delight I won that tournament without a wrist and without the loss of a game.

Did I ever walk on the squash court for a National finals with a grudge? Yes, twice. Once was in 1998 at the Los Angeles Athletic Club against the club pro, Robert Hanscom the number one ranked player in America, whom I had defeated in three the year before in the finals in Newport, Rhode Island. I was unhappy about something Bob had written in Squash News after his loss and even more unhappy about the calls he made against me in the subsequent Canadian Championships where, somehow, he turned up as the referee in my final match

(which I lost). In Toronto, Tony Swift helped me prepare to play on the converted racquetball courts at the L.A.A.C. I scored a tough, but very satisfying win over Hanscomb in the finals in three. Tony came close in his finals losing in four to Jay Nelson, probably the toughest and the best American player in all the age groups.

The only other time I arrived with a grudge was at the Canadian National Softball finals in 1985 when I played an unnamed opponent whom I thought had been grossly unfair to a squash team I was managing. The final score was 9-0, 9-0, 9-0, and that was intentional.

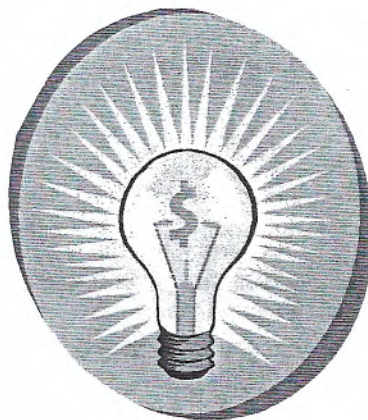
Have I given anything back to squash? I tried to by writing and by coaching. From 1987 to 1989, at the invitation of Thomas and Heather Jones, publishers of Squash News, I penned a series of articles in a column I named Cerebral Squash. Each one attempted to distill and illustrate a critical element of the game. I am told that these have become classics.

As we all do, I exchange squash ideas with players after matches. For years, at the U.S.S.R.A. Hardball Nationals, I would hook up with the best Canadian kid in the singles draw, scout his opponents and coach him through the tournament. Several got to the finals including Jay Gillespie, Paul Deratney, and Scott Dulmage who won it his second time around. After Scott's win, Dave Fish the coach of Harvard congratulated me, "You really out-coached me today, Gerry." I smiled to myself. It had nothing to do with me and everything to do with Scott's brilliance.

What's my most satisfying coaching experience? Undoubtedly, it was to prepare and coach the Canadian team for the Maccabian Games in Israel in 1985. Over a period of months, these kids became focused, tough and tournament ready. At the games they helped Canada to a third place finish overall. Jeremy Fraiberg won the Junior gold. The men's team led by Jim Sear and Phil Samuel won the bronze and the women's team led by Anita Halpern defeated England to wrap up fifth place. Each player arrived at every game physically, mentally and tactically prepared to win with a game plan they were capable of executing. And all played at their personal best. The total experience was richly rewarding for everyone.

Any other wins I'm proud of? Yes, the World Masters Softball Champi-

continued on page 18...



If you think one Insurance Broker can not satisfy all your insurance needs...

think again

Curtis Insurance Ltd. (official insurance provider of Squash Ontario)

Serving Canadians since 1945
and representing Canada's leading Insurers

In partnership with Squash Ontario we are providing members with:

- ➔ Sports Accident Policy with \$10,000 Accidental Death Cover and \$1000 Accidental Dental
- ➔ access to Squash Ontario Home and Auto Group Insurance Cover providing a 15% discount off our already low rates
- ➔ access to Squash Ontario travel medical insurance

Curtis Insurance Ltd.

75 The Donway West, Suite 605, Don Mills ON M3C 2E9
416.447.4499, fax 416.447.4495, Watts 1.888.647.6730
John Boynton, President or Jamie Bentley



Squash...It's Our Racquet!

honouring the volunteers

Each September, Squash Ontario hosts its annual general meeting. Representatives from all nine regions, officials, coaches and committee members come together as a family to review the season past and plan for the coming season.

The more formal annual meeting is held first thing in the morning and at that time, the Board of Directors is elected. Nominated and approved by acclimation are the following members of the **Squash Ontario Board of Directors** for 2003 - 2004:

Robert Brooks, President; Stephanie Hewitt, Vice President Technical; Mark Sachvie, Vice President Junior Development; Robbie Osher, Vice President Finance; Lolly Gillen, Vice President Marketing and Barry Farstad, Vice President Regional Development.

unteers who have made an outstanding contribution to the game of squash at the local, provincial and often times national level.

1. Willie Curry
2. Gerry Shugar
3. Brad Dussiaume
4. Willie Curry
5. Sam Nisenboim
6. Robert Harder
7. Cate Mee
8. Bob Townes
9. Bob Young
10. Jake Doering
11. Bob Bower

(see photos of recipients at right)

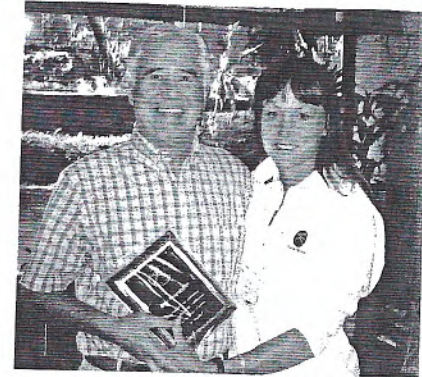
The Coaching Achievement Award

is presented to a recipient who has consistently exhibited, espoused and taught the principles of respect, integrity and fair play and who portrays a positive role model both for the game and for the coaching profession.

The 2003 Coaching Achievement Award was presented to Mike Way, squash professional at the Oakville Club.

In 1979, the Board of Directors of Squash Ontario instituted its **Special Achievement Award**. It is given at the Board's discretion, to a volunteer, player, coach or official who has worked on behalf of the game of squash.

Past recipients have traditionally been those who have made very significant contributions to the game of squash, not only in Ontario but also on a national and international level. It is Squash Ontario's highest honour and in 2003, it was awarded to Jonathon Power.



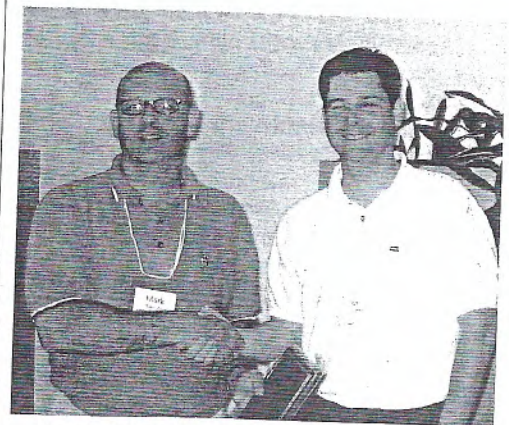
Sam Nisenboim and Lolly Gillen



Robbie Osher (left) and Gerry Shugar



Mark Sachvie (left) and Robert Harder



Mark Sachvie (left) and Robbie Walsh (accepting on behalf of Bob Young)

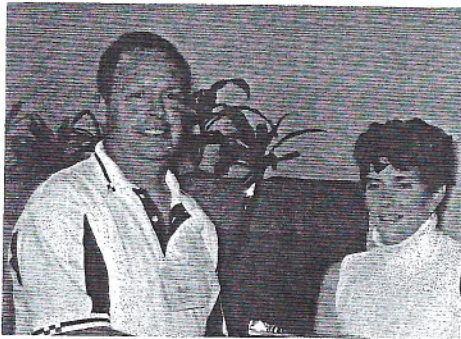


Squash Ontario Board of Directors
Back row, l to r, Robbie Osher, Barry Farstad, Mark Sachvie
Front row, l to r, Stephanie Hewitt, Rob Brooks, Lolly Gillen

But perhaps the best part of the entire day is the awards ceremony. This was begun about five years ago and has grown into a wonderful tradition.

The **Special Achievement Awards** programme was developed by the Board of Directors over twenty years ago. The awards recognize vol-

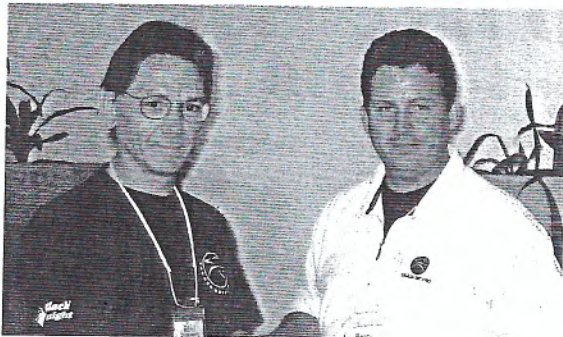
Ontario honours Mark Sachvie



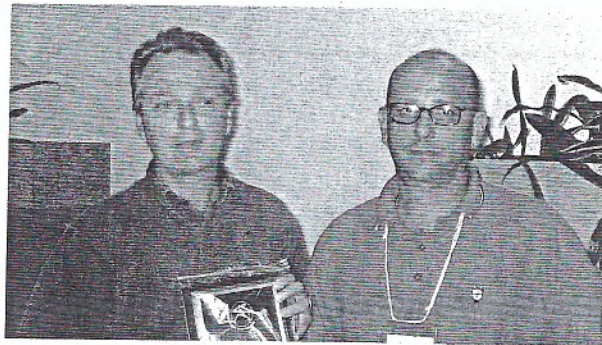
Bob Townes and Dawn Sommerville-Picotte



Bob Bowers and Rob Brooks



Brad Dussiaume and Barry Farstad



Jake Doering and Mark Sachvie



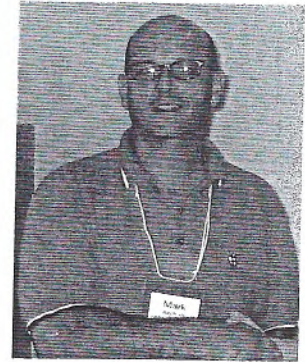
Willie Curry and Dawn Sommerville-Picotte

The Government of Ontario held its annual Sport Awards Ceremony in October at which time, volunteers, coaches and athletes from across the province were recognized and honoured.

Squash Ontario's nomination of Mark Sachvie for a Special Achievement Award was approved and on that evening, he took his place with many other volunteers who have given countless, countless hours on behalf of their sport.

"Mark Sachvie" – a name known far and wide by juniors, parents, coaches and officials not just in Ontario but also in Canada. For many years, Mark, the Racquets Director at White Oaks Resort and Conference Centre in Niagara on the Lake, has run arguably the most successful junior programme in the province. Not content to introduce and train juniors in our Niagara Region, he brought his passion and his commitment to the provincial level when, in 1990, he became a member of the Squash Ontario Junior Committee.

Mark is not one to mince words and over the next several years, he advocated and pressed for "reforms" in junior squash and in 1999, that dream of his became a reality. He brought to-



Ontario Government honours Mark Sachvie

gether other successful squash professionals in Ontario and together, they changed the course of junior squash in the province.

The new Junior Advisory Committee, under Mark's chairmanship, designed a blue print for junior squash which serves and services all levels, from high performance, to grass roots, and to schools. He designed Squash Ontario's highly successful "courting schools" programme and over the past two years we have seen more than 10,000 school children introduced to the game.

A man is judged as much by his deeds as by his words and this is so very true in Mark Sachvie's case. He has run literally hundreds of squash tournaments at White Oaks, many of which have been either provincial or national championships. He sits on the national junior seeding committee and for the past three years has held the portfolio of Vice President, Junior Development for Squash Ontario.

Many people are absolutely amazed when they find out that Mark actually has a "real" job, having worked at General Motors for over 25 years. How he manages to find time to fit in all he does for junior squash is a mystery. We're just glad he does.

squash awarded trillium foundation grant

Many are called...few are chosen. Over eight months ago, Squash Ontario applied for a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for junior squash development in the province. The proposed programme is two-pronged. The first component will be to hire a Junior Growth and Development Officer whose job it will be to travel the province, particularly outside of the GTA, to help clubs develop junior programmes.

The second component will be a community-wide media campaign to educate parents on the importance of fitness and specifically squash, to their children's short term and long term health. More than a third of Canadian children aged two to eleven are overweight, and half that number are obese. These startling and alarming statistics are according to a newly published Statistics Canada data. The data, which are drawn from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, make it clear that obesity has its roots in inactivity. Thirty eight per cent of obese children were found to be inactive, meaning they were not participating weekly in a single organized activity.

Because overweight children tend to become overweight and obese adults, it is widely predicted that rates of diabetes and cardiovascular disease will soar over the next decades.

This is an intolerable situation and one which needs to be addressed immediately. But, the challenge is not only to educate the young people but also to educate the parents about the risks of inactivity in their children.

Clubs will be asked to participate by opening their facility to young people in their community and at the same time, encouraging their long term commitment by offering significantly discounted junior memberships.

This programme is a three year commitment by Squash Ontario to introduce hundreds and hundreds of young people to the game of squash.

Need results, rankings, videos, rule books, memberships, tournament information, coaching clinics, rules clinics, school squash equipment, links to Canadian squash community, and more...

squashontario.com

MAYFAIR *Racquet & Fitness Clubs*

looking for squash action this season?
'IT'S AT THE LAKESHORE'

now boasting full spa
and massage therapy
as well as sports medicine
and wellness centre

Host of Squash Ontario Toronto Coaching Clinics

now with extensive Spa and wellness
facilities at most locations

MAYFAIR PARKWAY

now with a new
full service spa and salon

Mayfair Lakeshore
Racquet & Fitness Club

801 Lakeshore Boulevard East, Toronto ON M4M 1A9
416-466-3777 / mayfairclubs.com

NEW PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONS

With many thanks to Mayfair Lakeshore and Barbara Cooper, the 2003 Mayfair Ontario Closed Championships were an unqualified success. Participation was up over 6% over last year. Congratulations to the 2003 Ontario Closed Champions.

Women's Open	Carolyn Russell
Men's Open	Brian Ernst
Women's A	Julie Walker
Men's A	Nadir Hendricks
Women's B	Rebecca Hazell
Men's B	Greg Strong
Women's C	Sandy Kahu
Men's C	Danny Franceour
Women's D	Eric Knapp
Men's D	Carrie Simpson
Men's E	Sydney Cho

2004 ONTARIO TEAMS SELECTED

The Ontario Closed Championships are part of the criteria which the Squash Ontario High Performance Committee uses to select the Men's and Women's Teams who will represent this province in the Canadian Teams Championships. These Championships are being held in Victoria, British Columbia in January 2004.

2004 Men's Team

Brian Ernst, Juan Jose Jiminez, Dane Sharp (non-travelling alternate Chad Dommachsh)

2004 Women's Team

Tara Mullins, Miranda Ranieri, Shauna Flath

(Note: Selected but unavailable were Carolyn Russell, Seanna Keating and Marnie Baizley)
We wish both teams luck in bringing home the hardware!

NEW PARTNERS OF SQUASH ONTARIO

Squash Ontario is very pleased to introduce **PACE Credit Union** as the official financial institution of the Association and **Wittnauer** as our official time piece.

Both partners are deeply involved in our programming, with Wittnauer providing keeper crystal clocks for all provincial champions and PACE providing financial assistance in our Prostate Cancer Campaign.

We also welcome three official clothing suppliers: **Fila Canada**, **Levelwear** and **Second Skin**. These companies have come on board in order to ensure that everyone entering a provincial championship receives a quality tournament souvenir. As these are three quality clothing companies, the Competitions Committee has achieved that goal.

club
management
solutions



*Since 1984, our computer solutions have been making
our clients more productive and competitive.
Here's just a hint of what our solutions can do for you...*

Activity Tracking	Financial Reporting
Corporate Billing	Marketing Tools & Reports
Electronic Banking	Member Picture ID
Facilities Utilization Reporting	Membership Monitoring

CHASSELS
COMPUTER SYSTEMS INC.

Call Us.

1-800-663-8649 or 416-626-8649
5405 Eglinton Ave. West, Ste. 103, Toronto, ON M5C 5K6

SQUASH ON A LEVEL BY DAVID COOPER

PLAYING FIELD???

The new varsity squash season kicked off in early November with a reduced number of men's and women's games as a result of the new OUA format which has come in to streamline certain individual sports. No doubt when the OUA in their wisdom came up with the schedule they had discussed what negative effects this might have on participating teams but pressed on regardless. Almost immediately the results are being felt by some schools who are finding it difficult to recruit new players when the season consists of only three events – two divisional rounds and then the playoffs for the top four teams.

The Western women's team, recent OUA winners in 2002, struggled to field six players in the opening West division against McMaster and Toronto. Fourth year veteran Vanessa Steinwall now combines the duties of coach, captain and player. Western women have now been without funding for two years and the effects are beginning to show. Jack Fairs, the most celebrated OUA squash varsity coach, was also concerned as to the effect the reduced OUA season will have on his ability to recruit top junior male squash players. The Western men will play in the US Colleges Championships this year and have added Jeff Lurie to their already power packed team. The bottom line at Western is about funding – the men currently get school funding and the women do not.

Elsewhere things are not quite so gloomy at McMaster and Toronto, both of which still receive funding. Kim Milne, the McMaster women's player-coach was very upbeat, as for the first time in her five years at Mac she actually had to hold tryouts and make cuts to her team because there was so much interest. Mac have both Kim and Carly Thompson returning and have added two new rookies – Kristina Taylor from Quebec and Jen-

ny Hogan from Prince George, BC and will be looking to make it to this year's OUA playoffs which Mac are hosting on February 7, 2004.

Toronto women's team looks unbeatable with Katie Patrick from Edmonton joining Carolyn Russell as the number 1 and 2. With five returning players from the 2003 gold medal team, Toronto will be expanding their horizons when they travel to Cornell in November to play Penn and Princeton and to St. Lawrence in January to play Middlebury and Colgate. With the reduced OUA schedule the only way to keep interest high at the U of T is play against US colleges. The building block of the team remains their involvement in the Toronto and District League where they will be looking to make the A and C team playoffs.

The Toronto men have added two former U19 Canadian Junior players Sean Hanna and Jeff Best to their team which will certainly strengthen their challenge for the OUA silver. They will face tough opposition from Brock who have Jamie Martel and former Canadian U19 Junior women's champion Jacqui Inward on their team. As well, Jamie's younger brother Justin is also at Brock but is rumoured to be playing badminton rather than squash. Despite having Jacqui as an outstanding female squash player, Brock steadfastly refuses to contemplate a women's team.

What of the others? Well, we will just have to wait and see who has arrived and departed. At Queen's Steve Hunt, who challenged for the title of the oldest OUA player in 2003 has left and the team will rely on Dale Beesley for leadership. Stacey Bell is coaching the women's team who have lost three of their starting lineup from last year and will be led by Lindsay Wiseman who will have five rookies on her team.

On a very positive note the U of T will again host the 2004 Black Knight University and Colleges Champi-

onship from March 12-14, 2004. This year's event will also feature a three player Team Challenge for the title of top Canadian mixed varsity squash team. Hopefully this will increase the number of players participating in the championships and create an atmosphere similar to the OUA playoffs. There will be no extra games but players will gain points for their finishing position in either the men's or women's open event. Teams will comprise of either 2 males and 1 female or 2 females and 1 male.

Early favourites are Western but they need to find a female to play in the Open, Toronto who look well placed to secure points in the women's event but will need a male to gain a good finishing position and Brock who seem well placed to pick up points in both the men's and women's championships.

In a year when varsity squash has taken a real reduction in OUA visibility, it is up to all players and coaches to show that squash remains a viable university sport. If we don't there are plenty of sports just waiting to gain OUA status and take our place.

Spectators are always welcome at varsity squash events so please feel free to come out and enjoy the action.

©

Jan 17/18

Men's crossover at Ryerson
Women's crossover at Toronto

Feb 7th

Men's & Women's playoffs at McMaster

Stop press...

Results from the Women's OUA West and East division:

WEST DIVISION

McMaster 5, Western 1
McMaster 2, Toronto 4
Toronto 5, Western 1

EAST DIVISION

Queens 5, Ryerson 1
Queens 5, McGill 1
Ryerson 6, McGill 0

team ontario

Squash Ontario is very pleased to announce it's newest junior programme – Team Ontario. Four years ago, when the Junior Advisory Committee first met to restructure junior squash in the province, it envisioned Team Ontario and it is only through the financial support of players and parents to the Lee Hanebury Junior Squash Fund that we are now able to realize that dream.

What is Team Ontario?

A team of 12 young athletes (6 boys and 6 girls) who will represent Squash Ontario and the Province of Ontario at designated provincial, national and international squash championships.

Who is Team Ontario?

The top 2 boys in under 13, under 15 and under 17 (provided they are eligible for 2007 Canada Winter Games – 28 February 2007) and the top 2 girls in under 13, under 15 and under 17 (provided they are eligible for 2007 Canada Winter Games – 28 February 2007).

In essence, Team Ontario replaces some components of the former Canada Winter Games programme.

The team could change from year to year based on selection criteria which will be developed and published by the Junior Advisory Committee and whether we are continually able to raise the needed financial support through the Lee Hanebury Junior Squash Fund.

Championship Itinerary 2003

(1) Nesbitt Burns Ontario Junior Closed – November 21–23, Pine Valley Racquets Club, Woodbridge

(2) Canadian Junior Open – December 11–14, White Oaks Racquet & Fitness Club, Niagara on the Lake

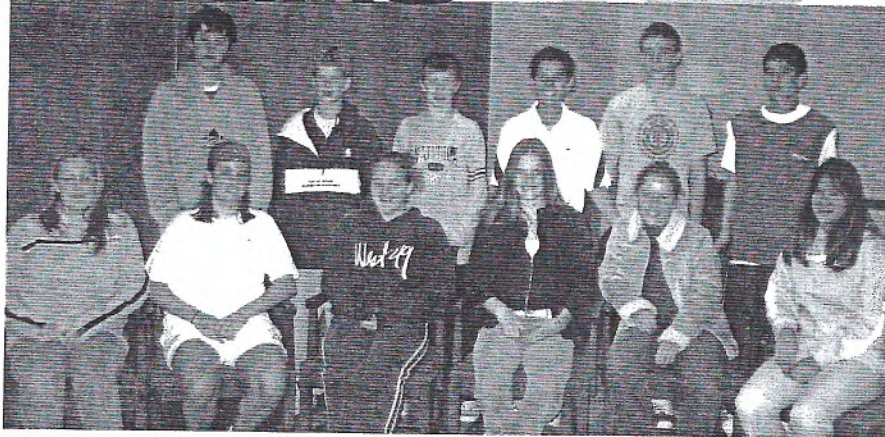
(3) U.S. Junior Open – December 19–21

2004

(4) Ontario Junior Open – March 26–28, White Oaks Racquet & Fitness Club, Niagara on the Lake

(5) Canadian Junior Closed Championships – April 23–25, Calgary, Alberta

Squash Ontario has committed \$1,000.00 per athlete for the 2003-2004.



Back row, left to right: Chris Sachvie, Colin West, Fred Reid, Amar Gupta, Tyler Hamilton and Brian Hong. Front row, left to right: Christy Hanna, Kim Watts, Lauren Sachvie, Rebecca Hazell, Annie Ritter and Carly Hong

new skill awards programme

Squash Ontario is pleased to offer its member clubs the Squash Canada Skill Awards Programme which is intended to motivate and reward players, to increase the number of participants in the game and improve their standard of play while having FUN.

The programme is designed for ages 7-14 although coaches may wish to include players outside that age group as they see fit. To effectively teach the program the coach should be certified at a minimum of Level 1.

There are 12 levels:

- 1-6, beginners
- 7-10, intermediate
- 11-12, advanced

Each level consists of a series of skills

and a point value. We have also included games related to the skills.

The skills in this programme are structured so that it takes the athlete from the basic racquet skills of a recreational junior to the advance strokes of a high performance junior. While it is intended to be a measuring stick for the junior athlete from the first time he or she picks up the racquet to his/her participation in junior tournaments, it can also be used for adults who are in the same situation.

This programme is designed to help you by creating a great learning environment for your students. The program package consists of:

- 1 programme binder
- 1 promotional poster
- 1 club wall chart to keep track of the students' progress
- 40 badge certificates
- 1 colour badge certificate for the coach to display

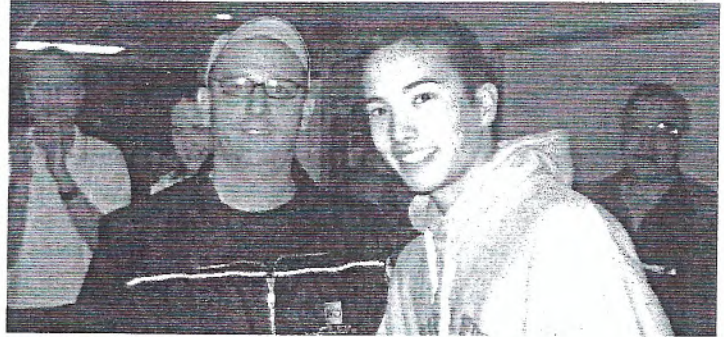
Each level has a different coloured badge which can be stuck on the badge certificate or sewn on a squash bag. Badges can be purchased separately.

For more information, contact Squash Ontario at 416-426-7202 or to order, go to squashontario.com

JIM MASON junior fair play award

Fair play - "integrity", "fairness" and "respect" - these are the core principles of fair play. It means showing respect for the rules - for the officials and their decisions - and respect for your opponent. It incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always playing within the right spirit. It is, in fact, more a way of thinking than a way of behaving. The 2003 recipients of the Jim Mason Fair Play Award exhibit the very essence of what fair play is all about. They are exceptional role models both on and off the court.

Mark Sachvie and Jim Mason Fair Play Award recipient, David Kodama

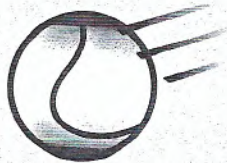


photos by Jim Paton

Rob Brooks, left, with Jim Mason Fair Play Award recipient, Michelle Craig and Mark Sachvie

The Name Says It All! (Well...In Our Case...Not Really)

➔ **Yes we are Toronto's Tennis Experts... BUT... we ALSO carry a large selection of squash racquets, shoes, goggles, clothing, accessories and an exceptional stringing and repair service!**



The Merchant of Tennis

- Black Knight, Dunlop, Head, Prince & Wilson Racquets
- Hi Tech, Prince & Wilson Shoes
- Black Knight, Dunlop & Leader Protective Eyewear
- Black Knight, Head & Wilson Bags
- Same Day Racquet Stringing Service

Don't Let Our Name Fool You! Visit us at either of our locations or at www.merchantoftennis.com

1621 Bayview Avenue
Toronto, ON M4G 3B5
Tel. 416.932.2396

131 Trafalgar Road
Oakville, ON L6J 3G4
Tel. 905.337.1294

Your Squash Partner.

Black Knight "\$50 racquet round-up" benefits junior squash

Out with the old and in with the new! Celebrate the New Year by trading in an old squash racquet for a new one, saving \$50 and helping junior squash development.

Starting Jan. 1, 2004, and for a limited time, **Black Knight dealers** will be collecting old squash racquets for use in club, district and provincial junior squash programs, and **giving \$50 trade-in discounts upon the purchase of selected new Black Knight models.**

Last run 10 years ago, this Black Knight program then garnered hundreds of racquets for Squash Ontario's school squash programs. Some of those racquets are still used to this day, but the supply needs to be refreshed, and more are needed as junior programs are expanded.

Here is how it works:

1. Visit a participating Black Knight dealer and choose a Black Knight racquet from among these models: SHOX 60(SQ-8860), SHOX 80(SQ-8880), WHISPER 135 (SQ-2110), WHISPER 130 (SQ-2115), QUARTX CXX

(SQ-2120), QUICKSILVER CXX (SQ-25LE), INGENIA GOLD (SQ-2550).

2. Say good-bye to an old racquet, any make, model or manufacturer and turn it over to the dealer. (No broken frames, please. Broken strings are OK)
3. Receive a \$50 trade-in discount from the posted price of the new racquet you have selected.
4. Complete your purchase and make haste to the nearest squash court for a great match with your new racquet.

Please take this opportunity to rejuvenate your squash game by trading in an old racquet for a great new one, and in the process help supply racquets to our school squash and junior programs.

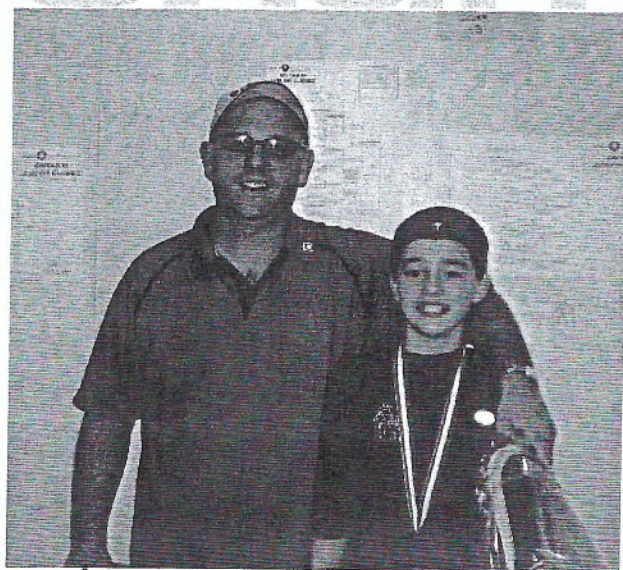
For further information or questions regarding school squash and junior programs, please call Squash Ontario at 416 426-7201. For more information about the Black Knight trade-in offer, please e-mail Black Knight at: trade-in@blackknight.ca

BMO Nesbitt Burns Ontario Junior Closed

Hosted by Rob Brooks and Pine Valley Racquets Club

Boys Under 19 Champion: Robin Clarke
Boys Under 17 Champion: Trevor Beange
Boys Under 15 Champion: Brian Hong
Boys Under 13 Champion: Nick Sachvie
Boys Under 11 Champion: Jamie Baker

Girls Under 19/17 Champion: Neha Kumar
Girls Under 15 Champion: Kim Watts
Girls Under 13 Champion: Jennifer Pelltier
Girls Under 11 Champion: Michelle Gemmell



Mark Sachvie, with Under 13
Champion, Nicholas Sachvie

"Sometimes coaching is more than strategy"



onship in 1985.

Where did I get my understanding of squash? Watching great players year after year at the U.S. Nationals and in professional tournaments. Talking with and playing the best of the champions - Heather McKay, Sharif Khan, Hashim, Mark Talbot, Gord Anderson, Billy MacDonell, Steve Moisey, Aziz Khan, Jamie Bentley, and Clive Caldwell. Friendships and intense competition with many young players of character and competence. Reading books by Hashim, Heather, Jack Barnaby, Geoff Hunt and others. And losing a lot before I learned how to win. ©

ONTARIO TAKES ON THE WEST

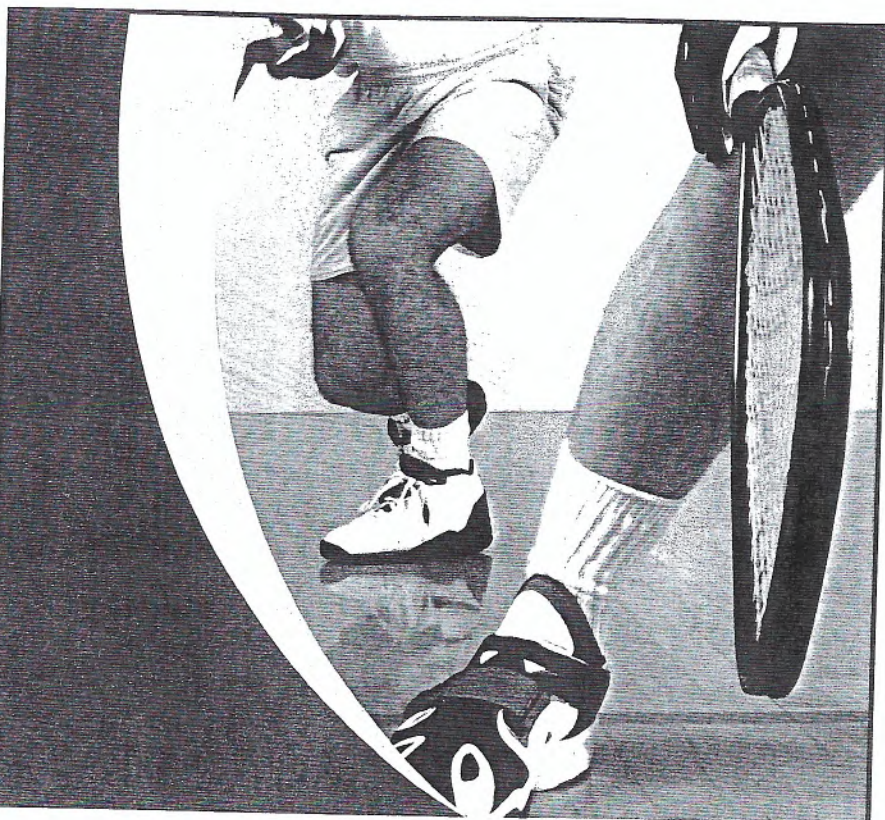
For many years, the western provinces have hosted a Western Canadian Masters Teams Championship. Discussions have taken place over the past couple of years and in 2004, Squash Ontario will enter a masters team comprised of captain, Mike Bertin, Fernando Pisano, John Frederick, Gaetan Godin, Elka Markus and Lorraine Tetreault.

The Championship is being hosted in Regina on the weekend of January 9-11. We are hoping that Ontario will be able to host in 2005 or 2006.

Selection criteria for the team was developed by a small task force of Robbie Osher, Bob Todd and Fernando Pisano. As this was the first year for selections, it was decided that we would use the order of finish in the 2003 Ontario Masters Championships. The task force will be meeting again in the soon to refine and perhaps add to the selection criteria.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The **2004 Ontario Men's & Women's Masters Championships** will be hosted by Dawn Sommerville-Picotte at the Brockville Y and Y+ on the weekend of **March 19 - 21, 2004**. It will be hard to top the tremendous success of the 2003 event but if anyone can do it, it's Dawn.



Thank you for the thrilling, fast-paced final.

Congratulations to the winner:

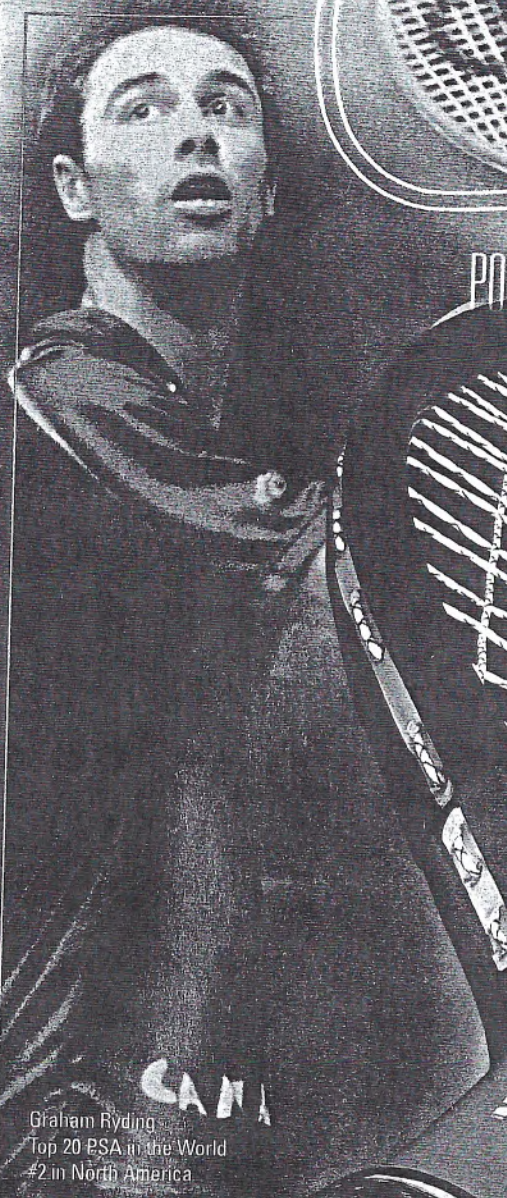
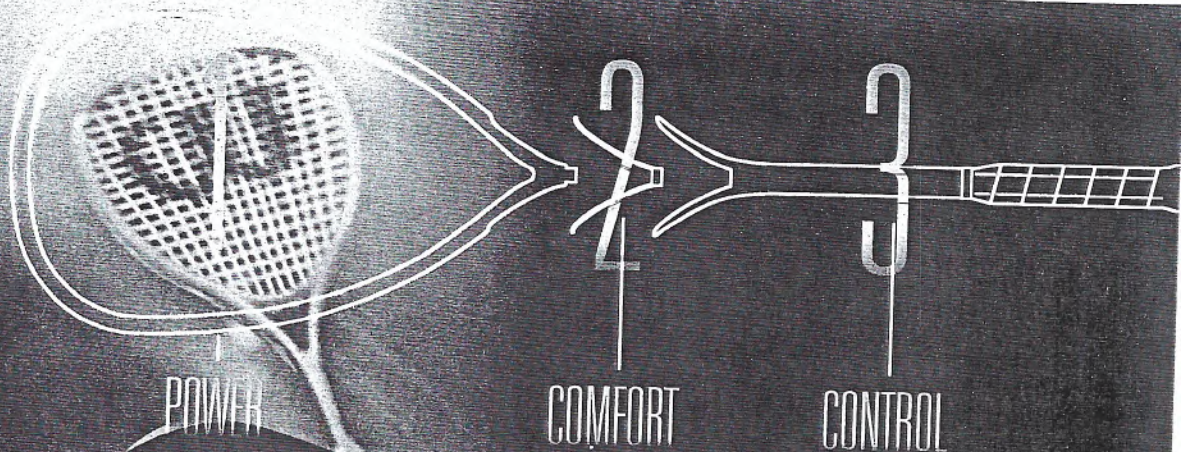
Jonathan Power

Proud sponsor of the Canadian Squash Classic
Supporting The Prostate Research Foundation

Visit us at pacecu.com

PACE SAVINGS & CREDIT UNION LTD.

W Wilson.



Graham Ryding
Top 20 PSA in the World
#2 in North America

Triad is the most significant breakthrough in racquet development in the last 50 years. Imagine if the hoop and the handle never touched. Not only could you maximize power in the hoop and control in the handle, you could isolate shock and prevent it from reaching the arm together. Our patented tri-component, design creates racquets of uncompromising power, control and comfort. TRIAD technology eliminates over 80% of the vibration and shock that is seen in conventional squash racquets.

- 1 - Power - Maximum power is generated in the hoop of the racquet. Wilson engineers combine Hyper Carbon with our patented Hammer design, which reduces overall weight, but maintains mass in the racquet head.
- 2 - Comfort - Iso-Zorb is an exclusive Wilson polymer, similar to the material used in skyscraper foundations, to absorb the shock of an earthquake. Wilson uses Iso-Zorb as a buffer between the TRIAD hoop and handle for increased levels of comfort.
- 3 - Control - The feel of control is extraordinary because shock is trapped in the hoop.

TRIAD™
TECHNOLOGY

Wilson TRIAD Technology Conquer in Comfort.

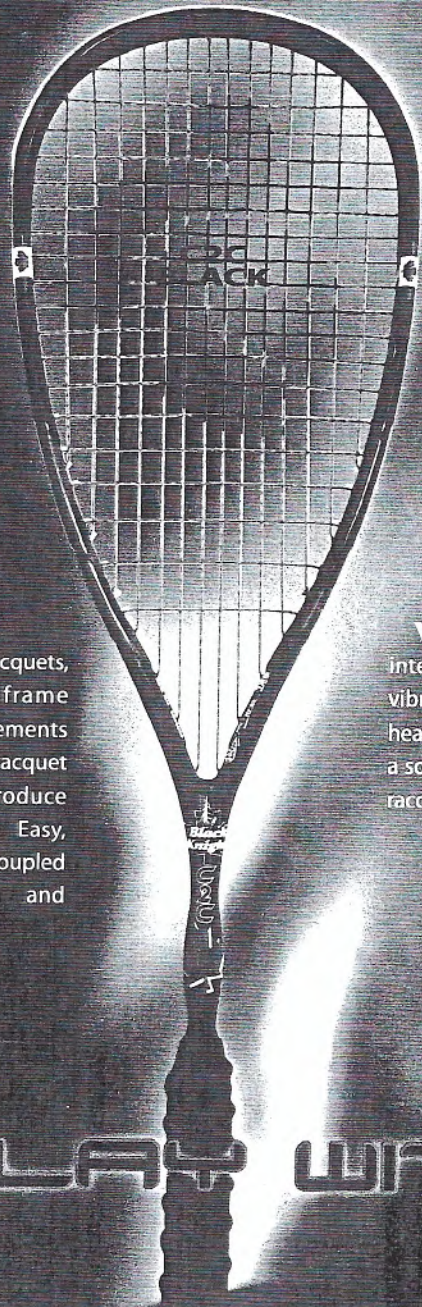
www.wilson.com

THESE NORTHERN KNIGHTS ARE SPECTACULAR

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF CANADA
Bibliothèque nationale du Canada



3 3286 52896140 8

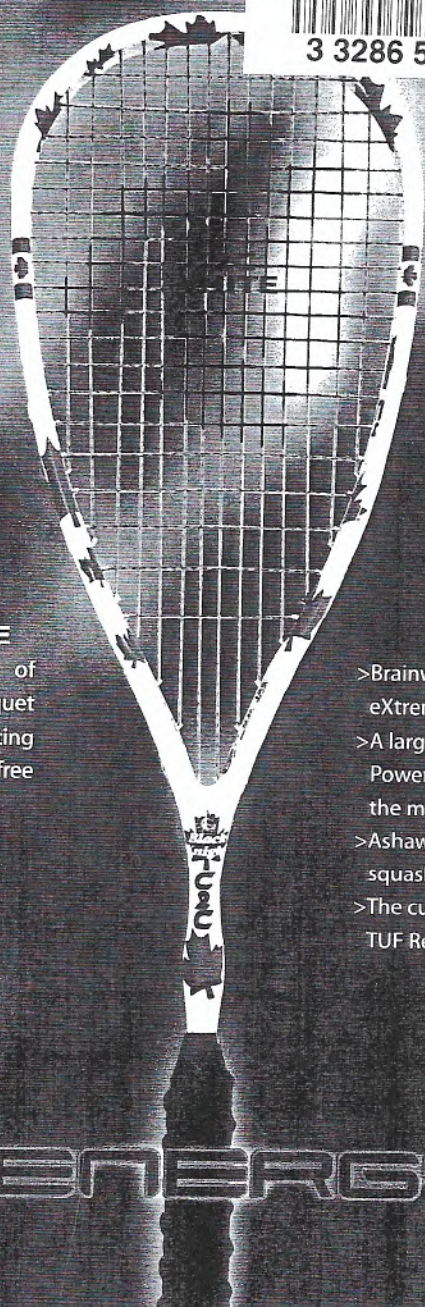


C2C

With the new C2C racquets, Vibra-Plate frame technology complements the most advanced racquet materials to produce spectacular results: Easy, comfortable power, coupled with great touch and control.

VIBRA-PLATE

interrupts the flow of vibration from the racquet head to the handle, creating a solid feel, and a shock free racquet response.



C2C

- >Brainweave, Carbon 4 and eXtreme Modulus Graphite
- >A large string bed with Power Channel extending the main strings
- >Ashaway SuperNick TI squash string
- >The cushion comfort of TUF Re-Grip.

PLAY WITH ENERGY

Black Knight
Forces of nature