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VOLUME 25 NUMBER 2

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Printed in Canada *

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4 four days in May 2001 Canadian Championships

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little snippets from the world of squash





Cover photo and photos in feature courtesy of Jill Proudfoot

homas Wolfe wrote, "You can't go home again." Perhaps you can.

The 2001 Canadian Championships were hosted by Toronto's Mayfair Lakeshore Racquet & Fitness Club for the second year in a row. Last year, the Championships were an unqualified success - could those results be duplicated?

Barbara Cooper, squash professional at the Lakeshore and her organizing committee, set out to prove Thomas Wolfe wrong - that you can go home again. Over 400 players converged on the Lakeshore, arguably the finest facility of its kind in the country, in early May and who could resist the temptation to play? Events were offered in all age categories, from 30+ to 70+ with companion B, C, and D events to entice even the most timid of players. All told, 238 people participated in the Open events and another 172 played in the companion events.

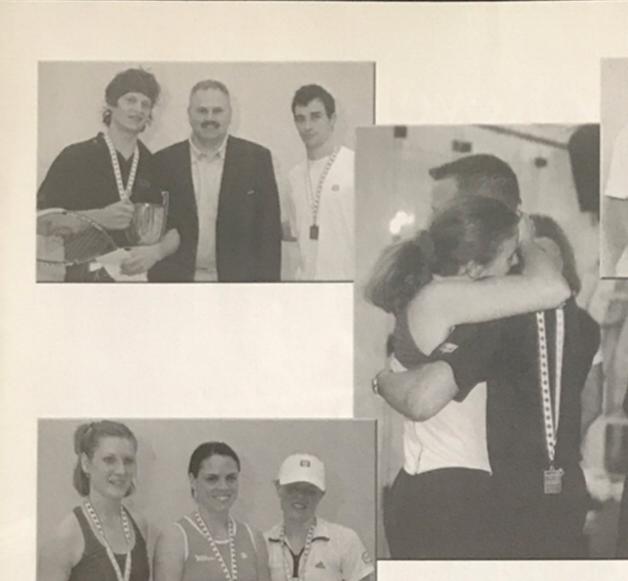
Highlighting the week was, of course, the return of some of Canada's finest players, including Jonathon Power, Graham Ryding and Melanie Jans. I watched Jonathon one day; he was sitting on the curb outside the club, earphones on and lost in his music. I couldn't think of any other sport where the number one player in the world could sit totally alone like that without being pestered by people asking questions, seeking autographs.

No matter where the Nationals are held, there is a synergy about them - hundreds of people milling around - new friendships to be made - old ones to renew. But, somehow, in Toronto and at the Lakeshore, the synergy expands until it reaches a crescendo. You are caught up in a whirlwind of frantic, sometimes frenetic, activity. It's what a celebration of squash should be.

Hundreds of matches were played during those four days in May and keeping track of all of them was the Tournament Referee, David Tullis who came out of retirement for this special occasion. It was wonderful to see him back and we can only hope that the experience was a catalyst to bring him back into the officiating fold. A great job Dave, well done!

Three years ago, there was some controversy over Mayfair's bid to Squash Canada to host the nationals two years in a row. To that point, the policy was to move the event from east to west in alternating years. However, Shirlee Vedder, CEO of the Mayfair Group made a convincing case that sponsors need to feel that their support is more than a one off - that a second year gives the hosting club time to build on the relationships formulating that first year. Squash Canada's decision to place the nationals at the Lakeshore for a second consecutive year was a good one. Everyone benefited from the sponsors to the club and most importantly, to the players. The 2002 Nationals will be hosted by the Glencoe Club in Calgary and we wish them every success.

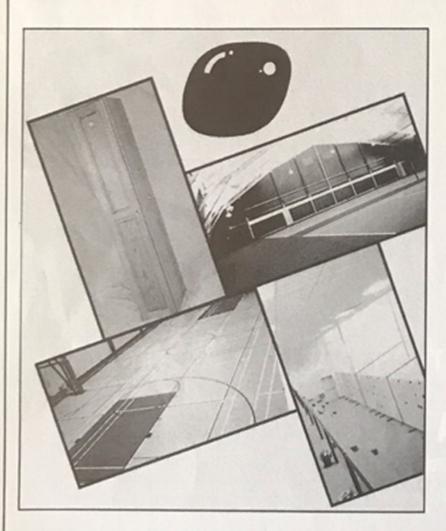
These last two years have given Toronto back something it had lost for a while - a zest for squash and Mayfair intends to continue to fan that interest by hosting a Spring Squash Festival in April 2002 - not the nationals - not even a fine imitation - but a pure and sweet celebration of the





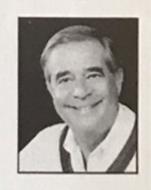


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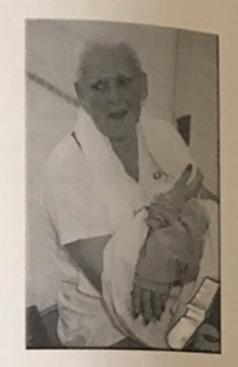
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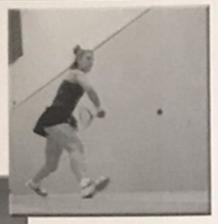
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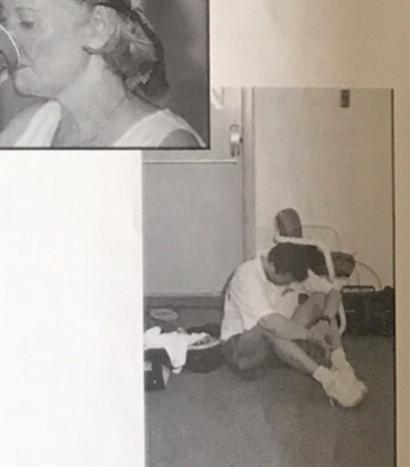
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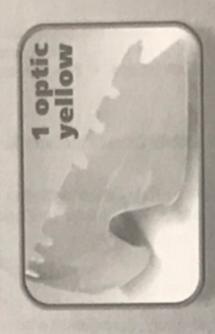


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Helen Kay, Canadian 35+ Jennifer Birch-Jones, Canadian 40+ Barbara Cooper, Canadian 50+ Tony Swift, Canadian 55+ Robbie Osher, Canadian 60+ Gerry Shugar, Canadian 65+ Doug Allen, Canadian 70+ Karen Jerome, Canadian Open Doubles Lolly Gillen, Canadian Veterans Doubles Barbara Cooper, Canadian Veterans Doubles Victor Harding, Canadian Seniors Doubles Sean McDonough, Canadian Seniors Doubles Sam Nisemboim, Canadian Legends Doubles **Ontario Champions**

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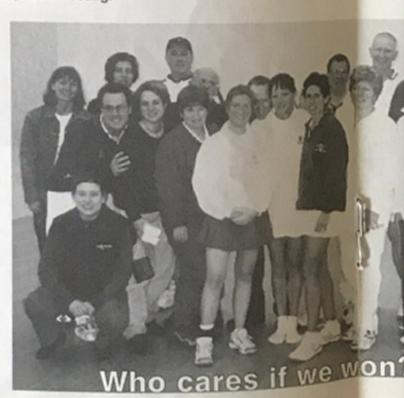
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Taylor Fawcett, Ontario Open Doubles
Karen Jerome, Ontario Open Doubles
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Lindsay Hermer-Bell, Ontario Veterans Doubles

Victor Harding, Ontario Veterans Doubles Sean McDonough, Ontario Veterans Doubles John Boynton, Ontario 50+ Doubles Tim Griffin, Ontario 50+ Doubles Tony Swift, Ontario 55+ Doubles Dave Bogert, Ontario 55+ Doubles Larry Hall, Ontario 60+ Doubles Jim Evel, Ontario 60+ Doubles John Fuller, Ontario 65+ Doubles Jim Bentley, Ontario 65+ Doubles Wendy Mitchel, Ontario B Doubles Leslie Slater, Ontario B Doubles Michael Boehm, Ontario B Doubles Richard Thomson, Ontario B Doubles Michael Whelpton, Ontario C Doubles John Kitchen, Ontario C Doubles Lauren Sachvie, Ontario Under 11 Closed Christie Hanna, Ontario Under 13 Closed Chrissie Arnold, Ontario Under 15 Closed Alisha Turner, Ontario Under 17 Closed Jill Skogberg, Ontario Under 19 Closed Brian Hong, Ontario Under 11 Closed Colin West, Ontario Under 13 Closed Robert Hong, Ontario Under 15 Closed Brian Ernst, Ontario Under 17 Closed Will Mariani, Ontario Under 19 Closed Laura Gemmel, Ontario Under 11 Open

Christie Hanna, Ontario Under 13 Open Neha Kumar, Ontario Under 17 Open Ruchika Kumar, Ontario Under 19 Open Brian Hong, Ontario Under 11 Open Chris Sachvie, Ontario Under 13 Open Colin West, Ontario Under 15 Open Brian Ernst, Ontario Under 17 Open Robert Nigro, Ontario Under 19 Open Greg Hutner, Ontario Junior Teams Jeff Lurie, Ontario Junior Teams Colon West, Ontario Junior Teams Brian Hong, Ontario Junior Teams Jessica Senior, Ontario Junior Teams Stephanie Edmison, Ontario Junior Teams Rebecca Hazell, Ontario Junior Teams Carly Hong, Ontario Junior Teams

NEW COACHES

Paula Kim, Doug Hamilton, David Forgeron, Spencer Anning, Neil Thorpe, Sally Cockburn, Mikola Czich, Doug Scheer, Steve Poirier, Chris Robitaille, Luke Doering, Rui Ferreira, Scott Simpson, Jordan Rodger, Rob Bower, John Paul Zyla.





The 2001 Ontario Teams Championship held at White Oaks Fitness & Racquet Club on March 16-18 was a great success. The five regions that participated performed well which made every match of the championship exciting to watch. The host club was no less than perfect, serving great food, providing clean and roomy accommodations, as well as running the event as scheduled (thanks to Mark Sachvie White Oaks Squash Director).

This year was a year to remember for the Toronto & District region. For the past few years in both the Ontario Winter Games and Teams Championship, the finals were battled out between the Toronto & District and Western regions. After tremendous gladiator combats the Western region seemed to rise victoriously and capture the gold medal. This year however, the Toronto & District region coached by Patrick Hartunian and managed by Ruchika Kumar proved its valour and brought home the gold. Further, the gold medal was not won over the Western region but, over the Niagara region. The Toronto & District region defeated all four regions including the Western region after the initial round robin matches leading to the finals. The Niagara region defeated three regions including the Western region and lost only to the Toronto & District region. The Western region only defeated two regions in round robin play losing to both Niagara and Toronto.

This year's gold medal winners representing the Toronto & District region were Patrick Hartunian (team coach), Ruchika Kumar (team manager), Greg Hutner (BU19), Jeff Lurie (BU17), Colon West (BU15), Brian Hong (BU13), Jessica Senior (GU19), Stephanie Edmison (GU17), Rebecca

Hazell (GU15) and Carly Hong (GU13).

However, the Ontario Teams Championship is not only about fun and games. To run a good event like this one a

number of challenges must be met to succeed.

(1) Finding a host club with nearby accommodations. This year we were lucky and the event was held at a club with on-site accommodations making it more convenient for all regions. The last thing coaches want to do is drive more than needed which is not only tiring for the coach but, also affects the rest/recovery time for the team in general. (2) Finding regions to participate in the event. The problem with some regions is simply the lack of players to fill every age category. Another problem is that some regions are located too far from the host venue and cannot afford the travel expense because the Provincial championships are usually a few weeks later and just as far. But, we need regions to figure out a way to participate because the total entrance fees increase the budget available for meals and prizes. This year we should be thankful that the hosting venue received some outside budget assistance because only five out of a potential nine regions actually participated in the event. The outside assistance was from the Jesters Club represented by Tom Nederpel who was kind enough to provide our Friday evening dinner as well as some of the prizes.

(3) Finding organizations willing to sponsor regional teams is the last and probably the toughest challenge faced by the participating regions. Sponsors help reduce costs of transportation, costs of uniforms, costs of accommodation and therefore reduce the costs each region would otherwise pay. But, each region is responsible for approaching and finding sponsors. The Toronto & District region is very proud and thankful to its sponsors. The Toronto & District Men's Squash Association (TDMSA) sponsored the Toronto & District region for the 2000 Ontario Winter Games. A big thank you goes out to Gord Robertson and Dave Tullis from the TDMSA. The Toronto & District Women's Squash Association (TDWSA) sponsored the Toronto & District region this year for the 2001 Ontario Team Championships. A big thank you also goes out to

Doreen Hunt from the TDWSA. Patrick Hartunian also approached The Jesters to inform them about the event hoping that they would agree to sponsor the Toronto & District region. Instead of sponsoring one region the Jesters Club went even further and sponsored the event itself. A big thank you goes out to Tom Nederpel and Peter Frost of the Jesters.

Thank you to all the sponsors, regions, coaches, managers and players who participated in the 2001 Ontario Team Championships. Hopefully, with the help of Squash Ontario and its coaches events like this one will continue to grow. More regions equals more players and more players equals more regions so let's keep up the good work and encourage our juniors to participate.

Who are the Jesters?

The Jesters is an international group, founded in England in 1928. The intention of the Jesters was then and is now to play the game, "In the spirit in which games ought to be played, and to make opportunities for friendship among those who play them." The patron of all Jesters is H.R.H. Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

The Canadian Jesters first established as a group in 1946 and there are now provincial chapters of the Jesters

across the country.

The Ontario Jesters also recognizes the contribution of many players and administrators of the sport by nominating these individuals as Jesters and assisting them to contribute to the promotion of the sport they love.

The Jesters is very keen and interested in helping to develop our younger squash players and that commitment shows in its sponsorship, not only of the Ontario Junior Teams Championship but, also of the Canadian University and College Squash Championships.

Squash Ontario thanks The Jesters for their support of

junior squash in the province.

Where are the juniors?

This past season has been a great success in all areas of junior squash. Participation was up in the Provincial Championships, in the Gold events and in the Silver events and we held fourteen Power Tour bronze events across the province, introducing over 250 young people to

the game of squash.

In a recent article, Mark Sachvie, Squash Ontario's Vice President Junior Development, challenged all of the pros and programmers to get more involved in junior squash and many did. Based on the juniors who are registered with Squash Ontario, there are many clubs and pros who have successful squash programmes: Northfield Racquet Club (Ralph Bentfeld), Pine Valley Racquet Club (Rob Brooks), Fit City (Diane Calder), R.C.Y.C. (Dana Castle), Cedar Springs (Ramon Chan-a-Sue), Pickering Squash Club (Scott Coleman), Elora Racquet Club (Jake Doering), Sudbury Y (Barry Farstad), Sarnia Riding Club (Brad Fisher), Nobleton Squash Society (Gordon Fogg), Burlington Racquet Club (Doug Hamilton), Toronto Cricket, Skating & Curling Club (Pat Richardson and Patrick Hartunian), Goodlife Peterborough (James Hayes), Nepean Squash Club (Ron Hughes), London Squash Club (Fio Marin), Glenway Country Club (James Martel), Badminton & Racquet Club (Tyler Millard), Granite Club (Jim Paton), Glendon Squash Club (Aaron Rodrigues), White Oaks Racquet Club (Mark Sachvie), Canada Games Complex (Bob Shine), Fit for Life Barrie (Jim Sier), Ontario Racquet Club (Jeff Sneyd), Toronto Lawn Tennis Club (Andrew Thompson), Nottawasaga Squash Club (Bob Townes), Goodlife Queensview (Heather Wallace), Club Meadowvale (Peter Ward) and Toronto Racquet Club (Mike Way).

Power Tour Bronze Events

These one day, fun events were introduced last year for beginner juniors and with thanks to Dunlop and Mc-Donalds, they have been an unqualified success again this year.

We thank the following clubs for running a Power Tour event and encourage all pros to run one next year. Squash Ontario provides a Dunlop racquet, Big Mac coupons for each participant, and a junior video to help you promote the event: Badminton & Racquet Club, Dow, Goodlife Galleria, Kitchener Waterloo Racquet Club, Granite Club, Pine Valley, Goodlife Belleville, Goodlife Queensview, Ontario Racquet Club, Doon Energy, Toronto Lawn Tennis.

Ontario takes six national titles at Canadian Juniors

Champions of the Under 19 divisions; Brad Jones who won the Boys' Under 17 title, Neha Kumar the Girls' Under 15, and Carly Hong and Colin West who captured the Under 13 divisions.

Silver medal performances were turned in by Ryan Osbourne, Miranda Ranieri, and Alisha Turner with Brian Ernst, Chris Sachvie, Ruchika Kumar, and Kimberley Watts bringing home bronze.

Ontario also captured the NCSRA Cup, awarded to the province with the most first and second place finishes. This was the third year in a row in which our juniors distinguished themselves and the province.

Travel Grants

To assist some of our junior athletes in covering travel to the Canadian Junior Closed Championships, the Junior Advisory Committee, last year, initiated the Travel Grants programme. Criteria for eligibility includes participation in either the 2000 Ontario Junior Closed Championships; participation in three out of four Gold events; and be ranked #1, #2 or #3 in own age category as at the year end rankings.

Those receiving a travel grant this year were: Colin West, Christopher Sachvie, Asim Nanji, Ryan Osbourne, Ryan Forster, David Rapley, Brad Jones, Brian Ernst, Will Mariani, Christy Hanna, Kimberley Watts, Carly Hong, Miranda Ranieri, Neha Kumar, Alisha Turner, Radhika Ahluwalia, Marcy Sier, Anna Roberts, Jacqui Inward and Jessica Vyrostko.

Helping junior squash

any, many thanks to those who have contributed to the Lee Hanebury Junior Squash Fund. These needed and very valuable dollars go directly to the Ontario junior players to assist in travel to national championships, coaching, or building our grass roots programmes.

THANK YOU TO: Mark Sachvie, Bill Iannaci, Mary Ritter, Catherine Fournier, Kathy Stewart, Brett Goodwin, Gavin Fisher, Ron Hutner, Luc-Andre Girard, Anthony Clarke, James Kubina, Stephanie Edmison, Ricky Chan, Scott Brechin, Gordon Robertson, Gary Delavigne, Dennet Wilkens, Shawn Donohue and Richard Luca.

You may contribute to the Lee Hanebury Junior Squash Fund and receive a tax receipt. For information, contact Sherry Funston at (416) 426-7202 or sq.ont.sherry@sympatico.ca.



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DOUBLE, DOUBLE, TOIL AND TROUBLE BY JAMES ZUG

The 2000-2001 International Squash Doubles Association tour has been going like gangbusters all winter and the enthusiasm poured into



Dulmage and Willie Hosey

Above, L to R: Rodney Eyles, Jonathon Power, Scott

Toronto in April. How is this for a feat? Decide to host a tournament for the first time, then turn it into the most lucrative professional doubles tournament in history?

Willie Hosey, the Irish pro, did just that with the U.S. \$40,500 Canadian Open at the Mayfair Parkway. The four-day tournament was a roaring success. Every match was played before a sold-out gallery. Local boymade-good Scott Stoneburgh and George Miller won the hotly contested sixteen-team pro-am. In the main draw Gary Waite from Sarnia, Ontario and Viktor Berg from Vancouver but, now based with Mike Way at the Toronto Racquet Club, cruised to their fourth straight ISDA tournament win.

While they had lost a mere four games in their previous three tournaments, the Canadian Open proved to be a sterner test. Ontario-natives Josh McDonald & David Kay filched a game from them in the quarterfinals and Torontonian Michael Pirnak and Damien Mudge almost upset them in the semis, 15-11, 15-17, 15-14, 15-14.

To anyone following the pro tour the names of those four are correct, but the partnerships aren't. Pirnak and Berg were a refreshing surprise on the tour this winter. Berg had nev-

The largest ever Canadian MIxed Doubles Championship with a total of 130 players was hosted by the Granite Club in April and was an unqualified success.

OPEN CHAMPIONS: Leslie Freeman (Mayfair Lakeshore) & Paul Gardner (Cricket) VETERAN CHAMPIONS: Nancy Bowden (Granite) & John Boynton(B&R) SENIOR CHAMPIONS: Sue Darracott (Hamilton Thistle) & Molson Robertson (Granite) B EVENT WINNERS: Sharon Munday (RCYC) & Peter Bloom (PineValley)

L to R: Damien Mudge and Anthony Hill

And the first ever Junior Mixed Doubles JUNIOR UNDER 15 WINNERS: Chrissie Arnold & Ryan Forester **IUNIOR UNDER 19 WINNERS: Jacqui Inward & Alex Carter**

er played pro doubles before January but, in February he and Pirnak took the tour's most prestigious title, the Johnson Open, at the Height's Casino in Brooklyn. They did so in resounding style, outlasting Hosey and Jamie Bentley in a five game quarterfinal (ensuring that Bentley, for the first time since 1988, would not be in the finals of the Johnson) and then amazingly took straight game victories against Torontonians Scott Dulmage and Dean Brown and Waite and Mark Talbott.

Mudge, blindsided by a bicycle messenger on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, was out for three months with a broken wrist so, Waite tried on a variety of partners for size. He played with PSA Aussie star Anthony Hill, the big Swede Anders Wahlstedt and his old partner Talbott. But, with Berg's arrival on the scene, it was a perfect fit.

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Waite had long mentored Berg, giving him a couch to sleep on in both Toronto and New York and training with him for years. They easily won in Chicago, Baltimore and New York.

Pirnak, meanwhile, grabbed Mudge at the last minute when he announced himself fit just hours before the entry deadline for the Canadian Open. So, their semifinal match was especially interesting.

In the finals Waite and Berg faced home pro Willie Hosey and Bentley who had made the finals of every ISDA tournament save the Johnson. Waite & Berg escaped with a fourgame victory 11-15, 17-16, 18-16, 15-12. Hosey and Bentley were up 13-9 in the second when Berg came alive and smacked some timely winners. At 16all, Hosey flipped a high arching cross-court lob which everyone expected Berg, considering the score, to play off the bounce. But, the irrepressible Berg leapt badminton-style and slapped a cross-court dropshot into the nick. A power outtage that darkened the court for fifteen minutes halted play in the third game, with Waite and Berg up 9-5. Hosey and Bentley tore it up when the lights came back on to run it to 13-10 in their favor. But, a rash of unforced errors gave Waite & Berg the game and they took the fourth with a little breathing

It was a brilliant way to end a brilliant tournament.

James Zug is a senior writer at Squash, the national magazine in the U.S. and writes a column on the history of squash at www.squashtalk.com.



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2001 CANADIAN UNIVERSITY & COLLEGE SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS

just a beginning

BY SHERRY FUNSTON

N THE LAST ISSUE of Squash Life, our University contributing editor, Geoff Sheppard, challenged squash associations across the country to find the "missing link." He postulated that the real grassroots of squash is at the university and college level as this is where the majority of people are first introduced to the game and that none of us was doing enough to promote the game in this setting.

Even before Geoff's article, Squash Ontario and Squash Canada were already committed to finding ways in which to tap into this resource, although, his words certainly put some oomph into our efforts!

The first Canadian University and College Squash Championships were hosted by the Toronto Cricket, Skating & Curling Club on the weekend of March 2-4, 2001. This event was a first step in focussing attention on the wonderful athletes trudging the hallowed halls of learning and it was a great success.

The inaugural event attracted participants from universities in British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick.

Trevor Borland of the University of Manitoba gave Western's Andrew Jones a good licking in the men's final, taking the title 9-2, 9-1, 9-3, while York University's Marnie Baizley defeated University of Toronto's Stephanie Richardson 9-2, 10-8, 4-9, 9-6 in a match that lasted over an hour.

Both Squash Ontario and Squash Canada would like to thank The Jesters who stepped up to sponsor the event as well as Dunlop and Trojan Sports. And a very big thank you to the Cricket Club's Patrick Hartunian who acted as the Tournament Chair and Moe Shehata who took on the duties of Tournament Referee.

The event is expected to grow in the next couple of years and may be utilized as a qualifier for the World University Games. Squash Ontario and Squash Canada are also considering adding B, C, and D categories to the 2002 event.



leading squash at the university level, from L to R: Stephanie Richardson, Trevor Borland and Andrew Jones

2001 Summer Squash Camps

Toronto Cricket, Skating & Curling Club Full Day Squash Camps

Week 1, Monday to Friday, July 9 - 13

Week 2, Monday to Friday, August 13 - 17

For new and intermediate boys and girls, ages 9-13

Drop off at front door 8:30am, pick up 4:00pm

Day includes 90 minute lesson and practice, 90 minute tournament, outdoor sports and swimming.

For information on registration, contact Pat Richardson at 416-487-4581, ext. 225 or prichardson@cricketclub.org

Willowdale Fitness Institute Jr. Sports Camp Half Day Squash Camps

Week 1, Monday to Friday, August 20 - 24

Week 2, Monday to Friday, August 27 - 31

Times: 9:00am to 1:00pm

Format: Squash, Tennis, Swimming, Lunch

Cost: \$115.00 per child (Fitness Member) Cost: \$130.00 per child (Non Member)

For information on registration, contact Eduardo Alvarez at

416-491-5830

Guelph to host 2002 Ontario Winter Games

Tourism, Culture and Recreation Minister Tim Hudak, announced today that the City of Guelph will host the 2002 Ontario Winter Games. Hudak also announced that the government will provide \$460,000 towards the cost of the Games.

The City of Guelph will be a great host for the 2002 Ontario Winter Games, Hudak said. Our government is committed to supporting amateur sport and the Ontario Games are an excellent opportunity for athletes to come together and compete on the provincial stage.

All nine regions of Squash Ontario will be fielding teams to participate in the Games. Teams will include boys and girls under 19, under 17, under 15 and under 13.

The Squash Ontario Junior Advisory Committee will be preparing selection criteria for coaches, managers and athletes shortly. These will be posted on www.squashontario.com.

Participating in the Ontario Winter Games is a wonderful experience, not just for the young athletes but for coaches and managers as well.

squash is thriving in Windsor

Tom and Marcy Porter, owners of the Windsor Squash & Fitness Club, report that squash is definitely on the upswing in the city. The club, with its five international courts and one doubles court, boasts over 300 squash members. The club is unique, offering not just squash but Wheels, the only roller skating rink in Windsor and a Hyper Space Playland, a children's play area inside the Wheels facility.

The club is located at 2475 McDougall in Windsor - drop by if you're in the area.

Barrie boasts new club

We welcome our newest member of Squash Ontario, The Members Club should be open for business by mid May 2001. It is located in Barrie's ever-growing south end.

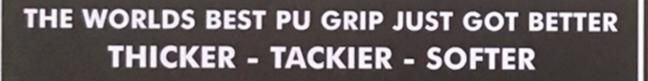
The membership will be men only. While this may be going against the recent trend the owners feel there is a good market for the type of facility they are building. The club is opening with 3 international squash courts and plans are in place to add a fourth along with a doubles court as soon as required. The club will feature a glassed in mezzanine level that will be complete with food and beverage service, there will full viewing of the courts from this area. When combined with the space below, the main court should be able to accommodate up to 120 spectators.

For further information contact Paul Ryan at (705) 722-4792.

2001-2002 Provincial Championship dates

The Squash Ontario Competitions Committee has circulated bidding packages for the 2001-2002 Provincial Championships.

- Ontario Men's C Doubles, November 16-18, 2001;
- Ontario Men's & Women's Closed, November 16-18, 2001
- Ontario Men's & Women's B Doubles, December 7-9, 2001
- Ontario Men's & Women's Veterans Doubles, January 25-27, 2002
- Ontario Men's & Women's Open Doubles, February 1-3, 2002
- · Ontario Men's & Women's Open and B Soft Ball, March





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8 - 10, 2002

- Ontario Mixed, March 15-17, 2002
- Ontario Men's & Women's Open and B Masters Soft Ball, March 22-24, 2002

Clubs must submit their bids by May 31st and hosts will be awarded by the Competitions Committee in mid-June.

a real squash festival

Melbourne, Australia will play host to four major international championships in October, beginning with the World Masters, followed by the Women's World Open, and the Men's World and Team Championships.

See what a taste of the Olympics can do for sport!

National Teams and squads named

Ontario athletes, Jacqui Inward and Ruchika Kumar head up the team which will compete in the upcoming Junior Women's World Championships in Penang, Malaysia July 15-29, 2001.

Other team members include Kyla Grigg, Anne-Christine Lajoie and the non-traveling reserve is Jennifer Blumberg.