

Player's tennis reveals hidden talent

by Josh Rubin

John Beddington's summer has not been an easy one.

The chairman of the Player's Challenge tennis tournament had his hands full at this year's tourney, which saw 15-year-old phenomenon Jennifer Capriati take the title and the

biggest payday of her young career.

Steffi Graff, pegged as an early favourite to win the tourney, pulled out at the last minute, citing a back injury aggravated during Germany's Federation Cup matchup against Canada.

Next, while scrambling desperately to replace Graff, Beddington

wasn't able to draw 17-year-old Yugoslav Monica Seles here to the National Tennis Centre at York.

Then after three matches each, both Gabriela Sabatini and Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere (the #1 and #2 seeds) withdrew from their respective semifinals, leaving Capriati to take the title with a straight sets victory

over Katerina, one of three Maleeva sisters taking part.

With the win, Capriati moved up to seventh place in the computer rankings, serving notice that she is gunning for the very top.

"I simply want to beat everyone," said a grinning Capriati at a post-match news conference.

The Player's title was Capriati's second straight tournament victory.

Just a few days before arriving in Toronto, Capriati bumped Monica Seles from the top of the tour rankings.

For spectators cheering on the tournament's Canadian contingent, the week's highlight came in the third round as Richmond Hill's Hurricane Helen Kelesi gamely took on, and lost to, top seeded Gabriela Sabatini

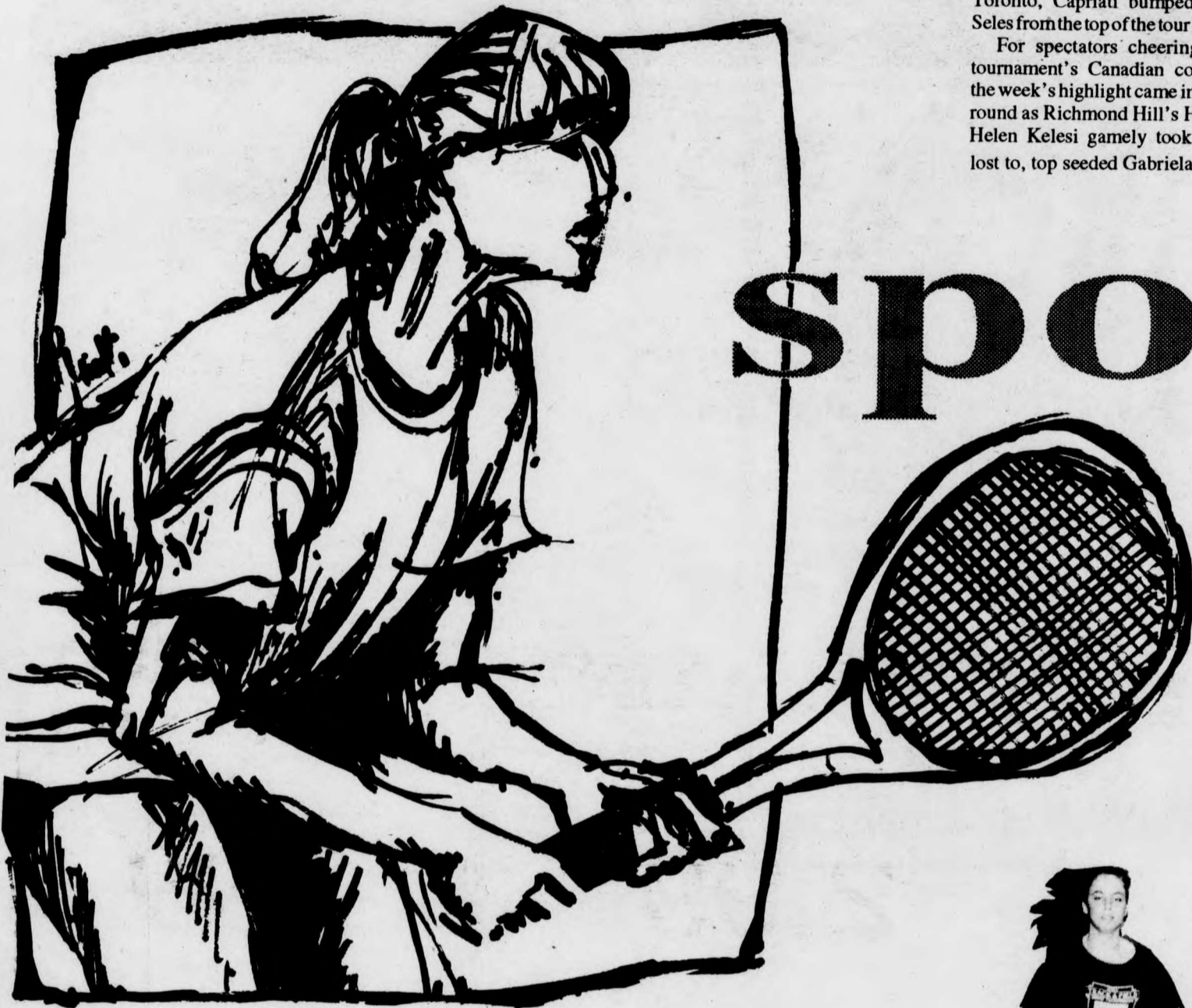
while playing what many observers described as the best tennis of her career.

A new face for most Canadian tennis fans was eighth-seeded American quarterfinalist Amy Frazier, who eventually bowed out to Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere.

The 18-year-old Frazier, while still relatively unknown, showed a keen mental discipline and an overpowering forehand during victories over Australian Nicole Provis and fellow American Debbie Graham.

Frazier, currently ranked eighteenth in the world, says she actually enjoys the lack of attention.

"It's really nice, because it allows you to concentrate on just your tennis more," said the unassuming Frazier.



sports



Get up offa that thing and roll your own sports at York

by Josh Rubin

If you're athletically inclined at all — or just want to get into slightly better shape — there's plenty here at York to keep you busy: you can find places to work out, run, swim, shoot hoops or even play squash.

The Track and Field Centre, for example, is open daily until 3:00 and is free to all York students who present their sessional validation cards.

Memberships for the track centre's indoor season, which runs from October 15 April 30, can be purchased for about \$80, a price which will likely be confirmed by September.

The indoor pass includes use of both the centre's weights and running tracks.

If tennis is your game, you can play inside the National Tennis Centre's "tennis bubble" at the north end of campus by getting a season's pass from Tennis Canada for \$140.

Also available for recreational use by York students are the Tait McKenzie complex (including pool, weight rooms, gym and squash courts) and the campus ice rink, known misleadingly as the Ice Palace.

If you're the competitive sort but don't think you're quite ready for varsity action, the York college you're

affiliated with probably has several teams playing different sports in something called the Torch League.

Some of the more popular Torch sports include broomball, a bizarre hybrid of curling and hockey, and inner tube water polo, which is just like it sounds.

Don't fret if you want to play just for the fitness and enjoyment, though: there is also a recreational league which has many of the same sports as

Torch athletics, but without the competitive atmosphere.

Recreation York, a group made up of various student and faculty representatives, also offers several different "lifestyle" programs, including, among other things, aerobics and judo classes.

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