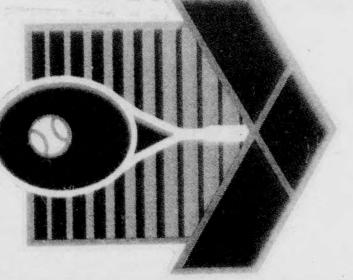
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SPORTS

Players



Canadian Open will outgrow York campus

by Josh Rubin

The 1990 edition of the Player's Open may well have been York University's last. According to reports in both the Toronto Star and the Globe and Mail, Tennis Canada officials feel both their organization and their tournament have outgrown present facilities on the Keele Street campus.

In addition to (hopefully) eliminating the backside blisters suffered by many tennis afficionados, tournament organizers hope to find a new location with up to 20 additional acres, doubling the capacity of the current site.

According to Tennis Canada president Bob Moffat, several options are being considered, ranging in cost from 15-70 million dollars.

Moffat says that the need for a new facility has been apparent for quite some time: "I've noticed it (the need) since I came on board two and a half years ago."

Several locations in southern Ontario are being considered, although the acknowledged frontrunner is Markham. There is even the possibility that the new facility could remain at the present site; a proposal is expected some time next week. Moffat hopes to have the new site ready as early as 1992, a date which he says would make the new facilities a vital part of the 1996 Olympics (that is, if we actually get the games).





Chang scores big



by Josh Rubin

Maybe it was the rain at the opening day press conference.

Maybe it was because, at that very same conference, they announced that Ivan LendI wasn't going to show.

Somewhere, somehow, the 1990 edition of the Player's Open, held at York University, got tagged with a big shot of rotten luck.

With sagging attendance, weather that was either too wet or too dry, and a lack of interesting top-level players (Andre Agassi fans take note: I said interesting, not annoying), on the whole, this tournament was a bit of a disappointment.

That's not to say that there wasn't a lot of great tennis. The final between Americans Michael Chang and Jay Berger proved to be an excellent tactical battle. made interesting by speculation over whether Chang would succumb to cramps, as he had during his quarter final match with Agassi. He didn't, and went on to take the title 4-6, 6-3, 7-6.

Two of the more pleasant surprises of the tournament were Pete Sampras and Jakob Hlasek. Hlasek put on a gutsy performance in one of his best showings since coming back from a serious car accident in 1988. His semifinal appearance against Berger pushed him up to number 35 in the rankings.

Sampras, meanwhile, continued to show that his success in juniors was no fluke. The 18 year-old with the Becker-like serve also got all the way to the semis, where he fell to fellow teenager Chang. Most who saw the match agree that this is likely to be one of the key tennis rivalries for the 90s.

Despite the fact that neither player ever even considered coming to the net, the match was

Although this may have been the last major men's tournament to be played at York (see sidebar), we can always get more tennis when the women's version rolls around next year.

More tennis coming to York in September

by Josh Rubin

Tennis fans who didn't get enough of a fix at the Player's Challenge can rest easy — the Davis Cup is coming to York.

After two consecutive series wins, Canada has a chance to advance beyond zone play in tennis' answer to soccer's World Cup. To reach the elite 16 team World Group, Canada has to first defeat the Netherlands in a best of five series to be played at York's National Tennis Centre (September 21-23).

Having defeated their American Zone rivals, Canada now takes on the Netherlands, a country which, despite not being known for its tennis, last year had four players ranked in the world's top 100 (Canada had two).

Canada's squad will be led by our top-ranked singles player, Andrew Sznajder, and the redhot doubles pairing of Grant Connell and Glen Michibata. The Dutch, meanwhile, will be hoping that second year pro Paul Haarhuis can continue in the same form that saw him jump to 57 or,² the IBM/ATP tour rankings.

Tickets for the five match series (all matches are completed, regardless of whether or not the outcome of the series has already been determined) are still available from Tennis Canada (665-9777).