

PROSQUASH

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Supriya steals the show

A unique squash tournament involving players on the threshold of national stardom set the trend of producing more champions in the country than there already are when the four-leg Air-India-SRAM Junior Squash Tournament got under way at the **Otters Club**, Bandra on September 24.

Initiated with this noble aim in mind, **Air-India** and **SRAM** lined up four exclusive legs for the tourney followed by the Grand Finals in perhaps what is a first-of-its-kind endeavour. The system has been meticulously planned so as to involve juniors boys and girls in the U-11, U-13, U-15, U-17 and U-19 categories. Among the seniors, **Deepali Anvekar** mauled all opposition en route to the girls' under-19 title, though there was a major upset when **Supriya Balsekar** shocked favourite **Rhea Bhandare** in a pulsating semi-finals which also will be remembered as the match of the first-leg, held at Otters from September 24 to 27.

Mihir Kapoor showed why Air-India's and SRAM's dream can turn to reality when he stunned favourite **Junaid Nathani** in an absorbing boys under-19 final. Mihir was forced to sweat but the victory in the end was sweet. His brother Vishal added another trophy to their shelf when he ended the winning streak of **Sahil Vora** with a 3-1 rout for the under-17 crown, to cap a rewarding day for the siblings. It was all in the family for another pair of siblings as well when **Vikas** and **Sandeep Jangra** (Jindal) overcame stiff opposition to clinch the under-15 and under-13 titles, respectively.

All eyes are currently focused on the Jangras who are in the process of creating waves. As the tournament progresses you should hear more from brothers-in-arms **Vir** and **Nikhil Seth**. Though both were runners-up in their respective groups they certainly caught the eye with impressive performances. **Alisha Mashruwalla** looks invincible among the junior girls, while **Vikram Malhotra**, who beat Vir for the under-11 title, seems to be enjoying his place in the sun. The top eight players in each age-group will qualify for the Grand Finals where the winner of each age-group will receive an air ticket from Air-India to participate in an event which would be in Asia or as decided by the SRAM committee. The second leg is scheduled to be held at the **Willingdon Sports Club** from October 28 to 31; third leg (CCI, Dec. 16-19); fourth leg (Otters, Feb. 3-6, 2000); Grand Finals (CCI, Feb. 17 to 20, 2000).

FIRST LEG (final results):

BOYS: U-11: Vikram Malhotra bt Vir Seth 9-1, 9-4, 9-0. U-13: Sandeep Jangra bt Nikhil Seth 9-7, 5-9, 9-2, 9-5. U-15: Vikas Jangra bt Karan Sethi 3-9, 9-1, 9-4, 10-8. U-17: Vishal Kapoor bt Sahil Vora 7-9, 9-4, 9-2, 9-2 U-19: Mihir Kapoor bt Junaid Nathani 9-2, 9-7, 4-9, 10-8. GIRLS: U-15: Alisha Mashruwalla bt Liana Deboo 9-0, 9-1, 9-3. U-19: Deepali Anvekar bt Supriya Balsekar 9-1, 9-3, 9-1.

AIR INDIA JUNIOR SQUASH TOURNAMENT (1ST LEG)



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The country's leading juniors caught in different moods. From left: Deepali in a clash with Joshna Chinappa at the Otters final; Alisha takes over scoring and Nirav Tomar has fall at the Little Masters.

Nirav Tomar spoils Nathani's party

The withdrawal of Tamil Nadu's talented **Johnna Chinappa** marred the WMI-Little Masters squash tournament played at the **Willingdon Sports Club**. The Chennai lass, it appears, didn't take kindly to being deprived of the No. 2 seeding, which was given to Supriya Balsekar.

On the positive side was the show of Delhi's **Neerav Tomar**, who came back from being 3-7 down in the decider to topple top seed **Junaid Nathani** in a boys under-17 final.

Tomar had lost to Nathani in the semi-finals of the Otters Club event. The resilience of the 15-year-old was remarkable and it caused his opponents to lose his concentration. There was little to choose between the two players and his steady nerves saw Tomar through in the decider. Nathani had something to for as he claimed the under-19 crown with a 3-1 win over **Mihir Kapoor**. The latter had been given a fright by **Maresh Verma** in the semi-finals before he prevailed 6-9, 9-3, 9-3, 9-2. **Naishad Lalwani** pipped **Jay Bhagat** in a five-setter to win the

under-12 event. **Nikhil Sethi's** transition to the under-13 group was tough as **Gautam Kalani** swamped him 3-0 in the final.

Deepali Anvekar is now unbeatable in the country in her age group. Her power-packed game, her mobility around the court ensures that the **Virar Medical College** girl sweeps all before her. Supriya Balsekar felt the heat as Deepali swept her aside 3-0. Supriya had stunned second-seeded Rhea Bhandare in the semi-finals, 10-9, 9-3, 8-10, 9-5.

Results of finals: Boys: U-19: **Junaid Nathani** beat **Mihir Kapoor** 9-1, 9-6, 4-9, 9-6. U-17: **Neerav Tomar** (Del) beat **Junaid Nathani** 5-9, 9-1, 10-8, 1-9, 9-7. U-15: **Karanpal Sethi** beat **Saurav Ghosal** 5-9, 9-6, 9-6, 9-1. U-13: **Gautam Kalani** beat **Nikhil Sethi** 9-1, 9-3, 10-9. U-11: **Naishad Lalwani** beat **Jay Bhagat** 9-2, 1-9, 3-9, 10-9, 9-4.

Girls: U-19: **Deepali Anvekar** beat **Supriya Balsekar** 9-2, 9-2, 9-3. U-13: **Alisha Mashruwala** beat **Natasha Lali** 9-0, 3-9, 6-9, 9-1, 9-3.

REGIONAL ROUND-UP

INDIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL CONFERENCE SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP, CHANDIGARH.

Yadvindra Public School, SAS Nagar lifted under-14 and under-16 titles in the **Indian Public School Conference (IPSC)** squash championships, which concluded at **Lawrence School**, Sanawar, according to information received here, **Harmeet Singh**, who was one of the members of the under-14 team, also won the under-14 individual title. He defeated **Tarun Malik** (Lawrence School) 9-7, 10-8, 7-9, 10-8, in a close encounter. In the under-14 group, YPS beat Lawrence School 3-0, to win the trophy while in the under-16 category, they outplayed Lawrence School 2-1, to claim the second title. Apart from Harmeet Singh, the under-14 team comprised of **Manpreet Malhi** and **Jai Sekhon**. **Sandeep Singh**, **Raman Grover** and **Manpreet Kohli** were the members of the under-16 team.

Results: Team event: Under-19: Winner: **Welham's Boys School**, Dehradun; Runners-up: Lawrence School. Under-16: Winner: **YPS**, Runers-up Lawrence School. Under-14: Winner: **YPS**, Runner-up Lawrence School. Individual: Under-19: Winner: **Charanjit Mann** (Welham's Boys School), Runner-up: **Karan Malik**. Under-16: Winner: **Karan Malik** (Lawrence School), Runner-up: **Sandeep Singh** (YPS) Under-14: Winner: **Harmeet Singh** (YPS), Runner-up: **Tarun Malik** (LSS)

RANKING SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP, CHANDIGARH

Anjman Shukla, **Harmeet** and **Varun Malik** won title matches in the age groups of under-12, under-14 and under-16, respectively, in the Rs 20,000 prize money, ranking squash championships for schools of the region, in which six teams took part. In the under-12 final, **Aryaman Shukla** of Lawrence School, Sanawar, upset top seed **Kabir Dixit** of YPS, SAS Nagar, 3-9, 9-6, 9-1, 10-9. **Harmeet** of YPS, SAS Nagar, bagged the under-14 title, beating **Dushyant Malik** of Lawrence School, Sanawar, also in four sets, 9-3, 6-9, 10-9, 9-4. **Varun Malik**, also of Lawrence School, Sanawar, got the better of YPS player **R. Grover** in the under-16 section by beating him in three straight sets, 9-6, 10-8, 9-4.

Earlier in the semi-finals of the under-12 section, **Kabir** ousted **Mahir** of YPS 9-1, 9-1, 9-2 while **A. Shukla** beat **Harinder**, also of YPS, 9-0, 9-1, 9-7. Later, **Harinder** stood third and **Mahir** secured fourth place. In the under-14 semi-finals, **Harmeet** defeated **Jai Sekhon** of YPS, 10-8, 9-0, 9-5 while **D. Malik** beat **M. Malhi**, 9-5, 9-4, 9-6. Third place was claimed by **Jai Sekhon** and the fourth by **M. Malhi**. In the under-16 semi-finals, **Varun Malik** of Lawrence School, Sanawar, defeated **Madhur Gupta** of **St Stephen's School**, Sector 45, in three tough sets, 9-3, 9-6, 9-5. It was surprising that despite having no squash court in his school, **Madhur** played a wonderful game. In the other semi-final, **R. Grover** beat **A. Goel**, 5-9, 9-6, 9-7, 9-0. Third place was secured by **A. Goel** and the fourth went to **Madhur Gupta**. **Harinder Sandhu** was awarded the most promising player of the meet. The chief guest on the occasion was **Dr. H. S. Dhillon**.

NORTH ZONE INTER SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP, CHANDIGARH

The boys from **Yadvindra Public School**, SAS Nagar, gave a sterling performance to score a 2-1 victory over **Mayo College**, Ajmer, to lift the title in the under-13 boys category in the North Zone Inter-School Squash team championship which concluded at the Mayo College premises. The YPS lads fought back strongly after losing the first match. **Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu** of YPS lost to **A. Khan** (Mayo College) 10-8, 9-6, 6-9, 9-5, 3-9, in first contest. Down 0-1, YPS lads did not lose hopes and **Manpreet Malhi** demolished his opponent **U. Bagga** 9-4, 9-2, 9-1 to restore parity. In the decider, **Jai Singh Sekhon** made no mistake in scoring a 9-2, 9-1, 9-0 win over **Srivasta Kanodia**. YPS lads now play in the All India Inter School meet in Delhi next week. On their way to top YPS defeated Mayo College 'A' and 'B' teams, Modern School (Delhi), **Rashtriya Indian Military College** (Dehradun) and **Welham's Boys School** (Dehradun). The hosts Mayo College won the under-17 and under-15 titles by defeating **RSM Inter College** (Dhampur), 2-1 and **Doon School** (Dehradun), 3-0 respectively.



A. I. Singh Organiser of three Chandigarh Tournaments

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Pawar catches 'em young

He is the most unsung man of Indian squash. No Dronacharya Award for him, no Kondeo award for him. But he lives large in the hearts of the kids who have learnt the ABC of squash from him. They have been encouraged by his patience, they have learnt the right things. And in some cases they have picked up the game in less than a week. They will swear by the magical powers of coaching of **Chandrakant Pawar**, who, in his dedicated way, continues to put countless kids through their paces at places as diverse as the fabulous 5-star hotel, **The Leela**, to the modern club at Carter Road, the Otters. Newer clubs are coming to the fore and giving Pawar endless opportunities to give to the sport more than it will ever give back to him.

At the moment Pawar, in addition to honing the talents of ISP-sponsored **Priyanka Yadav**, is training a bunch of four at different clubs. They are **Supreet Singh**, **Bipin Batra**, **Aditya Manjarekar** & **Yogin Thakur**. **Supreet** didn't make an impact in the first few years. Thanks to encouragement of Shishir Shirgaonkar and Rustom Dalal, he was given membership of Otters Club. There, under the training of Chandrakant Pawar, he improved his game. He has also been given the chance to play at The Leela. Sheer practice, accurate guidance and luck has helped Supreet win the Navi Mumbai Squash Spectacular.

Bipin Batra was under-16 and 19 pre-quarter-finalist at the 1998 Nationals, and also at the under-12 at the 1995 Little Masters and the 14 and 16 events at the 1996 Little Masters. He entered main draw at the Videocon Classic 1996.

Yogin Thakur, a 14-year-old student of **Maneckji Cooper**, began playing two years ago and was under-16 quarter-finalist at the Hong Kong Bank State Open. He was under-16 runner-up at the Navi Mumbai Squash Spectacular.

Aditya Manjarekar began playing when the game caught his fancy after his younger brother had given it up. His friend Jonathan's mother prompted him to play in the **Hong Kong Bank Open** so that he could get exposure beyond the courts of the WCG. His parents promised him new squash gear if he won. On his 11th birthday he played his first-round match. But it wasn't any entirely happy birthday as he lost. His parents were supportive, praising how he had given a good fight. In the Inter-schools Aditya won the first round but lost to **Rishabh Singhvi** in the second round. Again his father was positive pointing out that he needed better stamina. Aditya made a resolve to improve his stamina. His father **Sudhir kumar Vaman Apte**, the former SRAM president as a fellow cricketer. Apte guided him further. With Chandrakant Pawar there to assist at all times, Aditya is able to sharpen his game and defeated **Gautam Kalani** at the Little Masters. **Gautam** had won the all-India under-14 title at the Otters.

More success stories are awaited as these youngsters work hard to fulfill the aspirations of their parents and coach.



Chandrakant Pawar (centre) and his wards from left Bipin Batra, Yogin Thakur, Aditya Manjarekar and Supreet Singh

Rohan, Deepali's courtcraft comes through

Rohan Juneja and **Deepali Anvekar** relied on courtcraft, stamina and staying power in equal measure to emerge champions in the boys and girls under-19 categories, respectively in the Rs 85,000 Otters Club All-India Open Squash Tournament. In the final, the top seed Juneja recovered from the loss of the first game to beat Parth Doshi 6-9, 9-7, 9-3, 9-0, while Deepali got the better of Chennai's **Joshna Chinappa** 9-4, 9-6, 7-9, 9-4.

Doshi, the third seed, who had lifted his game to upset second seed **Bikram Uberoi** in the semi-finals, failed in his title bid against Rohan. After winning the first game, **Parth** suffered a concentration lapse at a crucial juncture in the second, with the scores tied 7-7 and just couldn't get his game together thereafter to prevent **Rohan** from claiming the winner's purse of Rs 20,000. In the under-17 final, top seed **Junaid Nathani** also dropped a game before defeating second seed **Siddharth Suchde** 9-0, 9-10, 9-2, 9-1. **Suchde**, who is being coached by Pakistani **Rahmat Khan**, just could not match the power and strokeplay of Nathani. However, there was some consolation for **Suchde** when he romped home in the under-19 final, defeating **Mihir Seth** in straight games 9-3, 9-4, 9-3.



The winners of the Otters Club Open pose with their trophies

The girls under-19 final was study in contrast, with top seed Deepali's power pitted against the strokeplay and courtcraft of Joshna. In the end, Deepali's power proved supreme. However, some of the strokes Joshna played were a treat to watch, especially her backhand overhead kill, with which she scored at an astonishing percentage. Joshna had it easy in the under-15 final, beating second seed Supriya Balsekar without much ado. The results : Boys under-19: 1-Rohan Juneja bt Parth Doshi 6-9, 9-7, 9-3, 9-0. Under-17: 1-Junaid Nathani beat Siddharth Suchde 9-0, 9-10, 9-2, 9-1. Under-15: 2-Siddharth Suchde beat 1-Mihir Seth 9-3, 9-4, 9-3. Under-13: 1-Gautam Kalani beat 3-Rishabh Vora 9-7, 9-4, 9-4. Under-11: **Sandeep Jhangra** beat 1-Alisha Mashruwala 9-5, 9-4, 3-9, 9-3. Girls under-19: 1-Deepali Anvekar beat 2-Joshna Chinappa 9-4, 9-6, 7-9, 9-4. Under-15: 1-Joshna Chinappa beat 2-Supriya Balsekar 9-6, 9-3, 9-2.

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NEWS NEWS NEWS

MONTE CARLO CLASSIC 3-10-99:

Women's final: Cassie Campion (Eng) beat Vanessa Atkinson (Wes). Atkinson (Wes).
WORLD MENS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP 23-9-99 Final:
 Egypt beat Wales 3-0. Ahmed Barada beat Alex Gough 9-2, 9-3, 4-0, 9-6. Omar Elorborossy beat David Evans 9-6, 2-9, 10-8, 9-4. Amr Shabana beat Greg Tipping 9-1, 9-6.

Al Hara Championship: Women's Final 17-9-99:

Michelle Martin (Aus) beat Carol Owens (Aus) 9-5, 9-0, 10-9. Men: Peter Nicol (Scotland) beat Ahmed Barada (Egy) 15-9, 15-13, 15-11.

Womens Heliopolis Open 12-9-99 Final:

Michelle Martin (Aus) beat
 Leilani Joyce (NZL) 9-7, 9-1, 9-7.

Womens Singapore Open Final 6-9-99:

Michelle Martin beat Leilani Joyce 9-7, 9-2, 9-4.

Hong Kong Open: Men's Final:

Peter Nicol (Scotland) beat Jonathan Power (Can) 15-10, 15-6, 15-8.

World Masters Results of finals 28-8-99:

Men: Over-35: Fredrik Johnson (Swe) beat Trevor Wilkinson (RSA) 9-1, 9-3, 9-4. **Over-40:** Ross Norman (NZ) beat Geoff Davenport (Aus) 9-2, 9-5, 9-1.

Over-45: Robert Forde (Eng) beat Peter Alexander (Eng) 9-4, 9-1, 9-4. **Over-50:** Ahmed Sawaf (Egy) beat Brian Cook (Aus) 9-5, 9-3, 9-7. **Over-55:**

Peter Wright (Aus) beat Mo Khalifa (Eng) 9-4, 9-5, 9-7.

Over-60: Barry Gardiner (NZ) beat Pat Kirton (Eng) 9-4, 9-2, 9-2. **Over-65:** John Cox (Eng) beat John Fahrenheim (RSA) 9-4, 9-2, 9-2. **Over-70:** Peter Cowper (RSA) beat Claude Claudet (Eng) 9-6, 9-0, 9-4.

WOMEN: Over-35: Suzanne Horner (Eng) beat Mary-Jo Morgan (Aus) 9-4, 9-1, 9-0. **Over-40:** Liz Brown (Eng) beat Julie O'Neill (Eng) 9-5, 9-2, 9-2. **Over-45:** Maggie North (Eng) beat Rae Anderson (Aus) 9-1, 9-10, 9-3, 9-2.

Over-50: Bett Dryhurst (Eng) beat Jackie Carr (Eng) 7-9, 5-9, 9-4, 9-3, 9-4. **Over-55:** Jean Grainger (RSA) beat Barbara Sanderson (Iri) 9-0, 9-2, 9-1.

Australian Open 22-8-99:

Women's semi-finals: Michelle Martin (Aus) beat Claire Nitch (RSA) 9-7, 9-7, 9-6. Leilani Joyce (NZL) beat Carol Owens (Aus) 9-7, 9-0, 9-3. **Final:** Michelle Martin beat Leilani Joyce 9-7, 9-0, 9-3.

Parada Mundial Open 17-8-99:

Men's semi-finals:
 Peter Gervase (Eng) beat Tim Garner (Eng) 13-15, 15-13, 15-11, 15-6. Olli Tuominen (Fin) beat Julien Bonet (Fra) 15-15, 15-8, 15-8. **Final:** Olli Tuominen beat Peter Gervase 15-14, 17-15, 15-10.

World Cup team event final 15-8-99:

England beat Scotland 3-0. Simon Parke beat Martin Heath 9-2, 5-9, 9-0, 9-0. Mark Chapman beat John White 1-9, 9-6, 9-3. Linda Chapman beat Pamela Nimmo 8-10, 9-2, 9-3, 9-5. 3rd place play-off: Australia beat Egypt 2-1.

Extelex Open 5-8-99:

Men's final: Thierry Lincou (Fra) beat Renan Lavigne (Fra) 15-12, 15-12, 15-13.

Women: Linda Chapman (Eng) beat Natalie Grainger (RSA) 9-5, 9-4, 7-9, 9-2.

8th World Junior Women's Team Championship

8-9-99 final: Egypt beat England 2-1. Engy Khairulhat lost to Vicki Lankester 7-9, 2-9, 0-9; Iman El Amir beat Jenny Duncall 10-8, 7-9, 9-3, 9-5; Omneya Abdel Kawy beat Amna Helal 9-0, 9-5, 9-1. 3rd place play-off: Malaysia beat Australia 3-0.

Oklahoma City Open: Men's Final 27-9-99:

Zarak Jahan Khan (Pak) beat Shaher Razik (Can) 10-15, 15-10, 15-10.

Mexico Open: Men's final 12-7-99:

Amr Shabana (Egy) beat Craig Rowland (Aus) 8-15, 15-7, 15-4, 15-13.

YTL Open: Men's final 12-7-99:

Anthony Ricketts (Aus) beat Billy Haddrell (Aus) 15-10, 15-9, 15-6. **Women:** Carol Owens (Aus) beat Rachael Grinham (Aus) 4-9, 9-3, 9-4, 9-5.

Pubela Open final 6-7-99: Men:

Amr Shabana (Egy) beat Craig Rowland (Aus) 11-15, 15-7, 15-7, 15-9.

Kuala Lumpur Open 6-7-99: Men:

Kenneth Low (Mas) beat Ong Beng Hee (Mas) 11-15, 15-6, 15-13, 1-15, 15-8. **Women:** Carol Owens (Aus) beat Nicol David (Mas) 9-0, 9-2, 9-5.

10th World Junior Girls Squash Championship,

Antwerp, Belgium July 1999:

Individual Event: Nicol David (Mal) beat Leong Siu Lynn (Mal) 9-5, 9-3, 9-2.

Indian results:

1ST ROUND: Pia Abraham lost to Kylie Lindsay (NZ) 8-10, 5-9, 4-9; Supriya Balsekar lost to Karen Westhuizen (SA) 0-9, 0-9, 9-2; Vaidehi Reddy lost to Michelle Quibee 2-9, 3-9, 4-9; Deepali Anvekar beat Nathalie Sulhasi (Fra) 9-0, 9-0, 5-9.

2nd ROUND: Deepali Anvekar lost to Nicola Clark (UK) 9-0, 9-2, 9-9.

TEAM EVENT

Germany beat India 3-0. Egypt beat India 3-0. South Africa beat India 3-0. France beat India 3-0. For 17th to 19th position: India beat Wales 2-1. India lost to New Zealand 2-1.

BAJWA APPOINTED

The erstwhile manager of the former world squash champion Jansher Khan, Salinder Pal Bajwa, has been appointed as the head squash coach at Harvard University, USA. Bajwa was the one instrumental in setting up India's Junior development programme. Top juniors like Adrian Ezra, Arjan Singh, Akhil Behl, Gaurav Juneja, Rohan Juneja, Parth Doshi, Shondip Ghosh, Rohan Bhatta and many others were trained under Bajwa. Bajwa is the first Indian to get the job.

ALISHA WINS U-11 TITLE IN HONG KONG

Cricket Club of India's Alisha Mashruwalla won the girls under-11 title at the Fujii Film Hong Kong Junior Squash Open with a hard-fought four-game victory over local lass Leung Shin Ng. The Mumbai junior, who was the top seed in the event, won 9-2, 10-8, 7-9, 9-7.

Other results: Jr. Under-19: Bikram Uoberi lost to Mohammed Azlan (Mal) 8-9, 3-9, 0-9. Boys under-11: Nishad Lalwani lost to Marcus Phua (Sing) in semi-final 8-9, 1-1, 5-8, 9-2; Ishan Balwani lost to Ng Kwan Lok (Hk) in second semi-final 0-9, 0-9, 9-2, 9-3. Third place: Nishad Lalwani beat Ishan Balwani 9-1, 9-0, 9-2. First-round girls

under-15: Joshna Chinappa lost to Lim Yoke Weh (Mal) 9-8, 7-9, 0-9, 9-2, 5-9.

SQUASH LEGEND NO MORE

Mahmoud Karim, one of the all-time greats of squash, passed away. He was four-time British Open winner (1947-50). Karim was a legend in his heydays. He beat CCI professionals Abdul Bari (world ranked number two) in the 1950 final. It needed the extraordinary skills of Hashim Khan to stop him in 1951. Egypt owes a lot to him as he used to help the youngsters. Karim was aged 70.

Quiz



Guess the name of the player & win 10 T-Shirts of SWITCHERS worth Rs. 2500

Last Quiz answer is Nicol David from Malaysia.

The Winner is S. K. Singh, Colaba, Mumbai

AN INSIGHT INTO WOMEN'S SQUASH

Women's squash has received a boost from unexpected quarters. Bachelors boy Raju Chaianni has just come out with a special edition SIMPLY SENSATIONAL SQUASH dedicated to the best lady players the world has seen.

The publication was released by Khalid Ansari, president of the Squash Rackets Association of Maharashtra. Mr Ansari lauded Chaianni's journalistic talents as did Mahendra Sanghi, that patron of squash and Gautam Thakkar, the president of Bombay Gymkhana. Mr Thakkar promised all help to the SRAM in their development saying that some of the gymkhana's restructured glass courts could be thrown open to the public on pay-and-play basis, which is the crying need of the day for the sport to grow.

Chaianni's book features all the world class women players from Fran Marshall and Janet Sharwood to today's world junior champ from Malaysia, Nicol David.

Dicky Rutnagar, Colin McQuillan and Richard Eaton are the prominent writers who have contributed, while Howard Harding, the media director of World Squash, has written a readable feature on squash's Czech connection. World champ Geoff Hunt writes on the 'Women of Substance' and Sarah Fitz-Gerald, the women's world champ, provides insights into their circuit. All in all it is a publication matching its predecessors, 'The Best Men of World Squash' and 'Jansher: a golden era'.

The only sad part is that there's not a line on Indian women. As the writer explained, they didn't belong to the world class.

Hopefully, this won't be said about our women players of the next millennium.



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