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Karanpal Sethi, Mr. Khalid Ansari (President, SRAM), HRH Tunku Imran (President Emeritus, World Squash Federation), Datuk Vinod Shekhar, Mr. Miltendra Bhargava, Mr. Mahendra Agarwal (Hon-Sec. SRAM), Mr. Nitin Gadekar (President, Khar Gymkhana), Mihir Seth, Vikram Malbotra, Vir Seth. Alisha Mashruwala & Natasha Lall att the prize distribution ceremony of Air India 1" leg tournament at Khar Gymkhana

The first leg of the 2nd Air-India-SRAM Junior Squash Tournament got off to a flier when underdog Mihir Sheth and little Vir Seth set the trend for an absorbing finals day at the Khar Gymkhana which played host from December 18 to 20, 2000.

Closely contested title clashes marked the concluding day, which served as a good omen for the rest of the three-leg tournament, designed by the Squash Racquets Association of Maharashtra (SRAM) and sponsored by aviation giants Air-India to encourage junior squash players in the state. The first leg coincided with the visit of HRH Prince Tunku Imran of Malaysia, President Emeritus of the World Squash Federation, and businessman Datuk Vinod Shekhar, and turned out to be the perfect treat for the royal quest. Vir Seth set the ball rolling in the finals when he unrayeled a repertoire of breathtaking strokes to record a stunning 6-9, 9-3, 9-6, 9-7 come-from-behind victory over a dour Jay Dalal in an exciting 35-minute contest. In the process, Vir collected his

third crown of the season after earlier winning titles at the Otters Club and Bombay Gymkhana. Mihir Sheth ended a one-year drought by helping himself to the under-17 title following a magical 9-5, 3-9, 10-8, 9-4 triumph over favourite Supreet Singh. Mihir's fortunes turned dramatically in the third game when he ignored a 0-4 deficit to lead 8-4, before Supreet came back to restore parity at 8-8. But crucial winners saw Mihir clinch the game over extra points, as he entered the fourth game with supreme confidence en route to a memorable victory.

Mihir's thrilling win briefly overshadowed Karanpal Sethi's hard-earned 9-7, 4-9, 9-4, 7-9, 9-1 triumph over talented Rishabh Singhyi in an exciting boys' under-15 final, Barely a month out of the under-11 category. Khar Gymkhana's Vikram Malhotra bagged his maiden under-13 crown following a 9-4, 10-8, 9-7 victory over formidable Naishad Lalwani.

Malhotra, the under-11 national champion, has made giant strides in his game especially after being initiated into squash only a year and a half back, and it reflected in his performance in the opening leg of this tournament.

Nothing's gonna stop her now, Alisha Mashruwala seems to be humming this hit tune all the time as she continued her winning streak with an emphatic 9-1, 9-0, 9-0 verdict over Shallee Shelke for the girls' under-13 title.

The impressive performances reflected the efforts of the SRAM under the presidentship of Mr. Khalid A.H. Ansari who lauded the juniors in a brief but sentimental speech at the glittering prize distribution.

Results (finals): BOYS Under-17: Mihir Sheth bt Supreet Singh 9-5, 3-9,10-8, 9-4, Under-15: Karanpal Sethi bt Rishabh Singhyi 9-7, 4-9, 9-4, 7-9, 9-1 Under-13: Vikram Malhotra bt Naishad Lalwani 9-4,10-9, 9-7. Under-11: Vir Seth bt Jay Dalai 6-9, 9-3, 9-6, 9-7 GIRLS Under-13: Alisha Mashruwala bt Shailee Shelke 9-1, 9-0, 9-0. Under-17: Natasha Lall bt Shubika Bilka 8-1 (conceded) Semifinals) Boys: Under-11: Vir Seth bt Suraj Ravindram 9-6, 9-1, 9-4 Jay Dalal bt Pratik Manjrekar 9-0, 9-0, 9-0 Under-13: Vikram Malhotra bt Nikhil Seth 9-3, 9-4, 9-2 Naishad Lalwani bt Jay Bhagt 7-9, 9-5, 9-1, 9-6 Under-15: Rishabh Singhvi bt Rushabha Vora 9-1, 9-3, 9-6 Karan Sethi bt Ritesh Sharma 9-5, 9-3, 9-1 Under-17: Supreet Singh bit Anurag Gill 9-1, 9-2, 9-5 Mihir Sheth bit Adilya Manjerkar 9-1, 9-1, 10-8 Girls: Under-13: Alsiha Mashurwala bit Shiyangi Paranjpe 9-0, 9-0, 9-0 Shallee Shelke bit Nikita Emanuel 10-9, 9-2, 9-6 Under-17: Shubika Bilka bit Liana Deboo 9-5, 9-7, 9-1 Natasha Lall bit Bhaktiveda Dhual 9-4, 9-1, 9-1

By Don Monteiro

January 2001

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Saket Wali, Amit Chinoy, Niraj Shirgaokar, Rahmat Khan (coach), Bikram Uberoi & Manish Chotrani the members of the Maharashtra team which won Rs. 50000/ as prize money from Mid-Day, with their trophies.

The final of the all-India inter-state squash championship was anti climatic, Maharashtra not having much trouble in beating Delhi 'A', at the Gymkhana Club courts. The Delhi outfit's 3-2 win over Maharashtra earlier in the league, was thus useful only to the extent that it got an easier semifinal and made the final. The will seemed to be lacking and the host went down tamely

Maharashtra fielded Amit Chinai instead of Neerai Shirgaonkar, who had lost a match in the league tie against Delhi, and the difference showed. Chinai scored a straight-games win over P. Mahaian in the first match of the final, while Saket Wali repeated a win over Yogendra Singh. Ritwik's easy win over Manish Chotrani did not bring any cheer to the host, as its next match was to be a no show.

But it was still a good outing for Delhi and its best player, Bhattacharva. was happy with the team having made the final.

The results (final): Maharashtra bt Delhi `A': Amit Chinai bt P. Mahajan 9-2, 9-3, 9-0; Saket Wali bt Yogendra Singh 9-0, 7-9, 10-9, 9-4; Manish Chotrani lost to Ritwik Bhattacharya 1-9, 4-9, 0-9; Bikram Oberoi w/o Arjun Khanna

men's world Pen Souash

2001-2005 IN INDI

The governing body of Men's Professional Squash, the Professional Squash Association, is delighted to announce that the Men's World Open rights and title for the years 2001, 2003, 2004 and 2005 together with the World GRAND PRIX Finals 2002 has been awarded to Procam International, India. The total prize money for the said event is 5 crores spread over a period of 5 years.

A.I. SINGH oualifies as



Amitoi Inder Singh from Chandigarh has qualified as Level 2 coach as per intimation from Major Maniam.

He is in the process of starting the ASPN-BOP circuit and has initiated the ranking in a local school, St. John's School, The next round involving all Junior players in Chandigarh will be held in the next academic year and he hopes to involve most Squash playing schools playing

in the Northern region. He could not go for the Level 3 course due to unforseen reasons.

SQUASH NEWS FROM SHIMLA



The 8th HP Squash Championship was held in Bishop School Shimla, on 16th & 17th September 2000. The response for the said tournament was very good as many as 61 players participated in it.

The school which has three beautiful squash courts held the championship or the first time and it was inaugurated by Shri R.D. Kashyap, Minister of Local Self Government, Himachal Pradesh, Mr. Vilav sud. Secretary General of HP State Squash Rackets Association was the brain behind conducting the tournament.

Results, Men : Winner: Vijay K. Singh (BCS)/ Ist Runner Up : Atul Goel (BCS)/2nd Runner Up: S. Dutta (Shimla Distt.) U-15 Boys : Winner : D. Malik (Lawrence Sanawar. Solan Dist) Ist runner Up : Dikshit Mehra (BCS)/ 2nd Runners Up: H. Rarewala (BCS) Mens Team Winners: Shimla Distt/ Ist Runners Up: BCS 2nd Runners Up: Lawrence School Sanawar- Solan Distt Men Over 45 : Winner: Vijay Sud (Shimla)/ Runners Up: Umesh Akre (Shimla) Girls Winner: Astha (Army Public School, Solan Distt)

Shri Narinder Bragta, Honble Minister HP, for Horticulture gave away the prizes, after witnessing the men's finals. He also promised to co-ordinate with the HP Squash Rackets Association to hand over the US Club, Squash Complex containing three Squash courts to the Association after due repairs as at present these were being used as government offices.

Studio Kiran ANDHERI

PROFESSIONAL VIDEO & PHOTOS KIRAN SHARMA 12-B, GOPAL BHAVAN, ANDHERI KURLA ROAD, ANDHERI (E) MUMBAI 400 069 PHONE 832 7688 / 834 1657

By Anjan Chinappa.



No doubt it was a phenomenal victory that Josh pulled off, especially beating three-time national champion Mekhala Subedar. Josh is only 14 years old being born on September 15,1986. Joshna has got great support from the local press and TV. She feels great about the triumph, as for us, it is still sinking in Joshna feels it was not as lough as she expected it to be. Both Joshna and I believed Josh would beat Mekhala. She had the potential, only needed to focus. After losing to Mekhala in Mumbai a couple of months ago, Joshna told us she w was going for Mekhala, when she met her in the Senior Nationals.

Much of the credit goes to the SRFI and their camp for the Asian Juniors in February. They train 6.7 hours at day From 6 an. 16.33 a.m. and again in the evening from 4.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Then closhna has dinner at the guest house with the team and returns home at 8.30 p.m. She studies for an hour as the is also doing her mid-ferm exams. To be at 8.30 p.m. This strict due, physical fitness and psychological training under Chennais well-known Sports physical instruct Dr. Kannan, and hours of practice with SRFI coach Cyrus Poncha and the rest of the team at the superb international squash courts at the India Cements Squash Academy, has taken her to big heights. This camp started on December 4 and will go on till February 17 in. The Asians start on February 17 in Chennai. Joshna has had problems with the draw but says it does not concern her amy more as she knows she can control the game, by playing clean and keeping

refereeing decisions to minimum. Even if the draw is not how you thought it would be, the idea is to play your best and prove yourself.

There was a defeat at the hands of Valdehi Reddy in Mumbai but it rankled very little. She soon set her eyes on the National title to set the

I nere was a derest at rien raincs of varient needly in Municial Dut I rainted very little. She soon set ner eyes on the hallonal rainted to set the record straight. By hard work and God's grace she did it.

She was off focus in Mumbai, and a too easy life style. The SRFI camp and the psychological sessions have set things right for Josh. It helpog her focus and has given her a good routine, I did nothing as Josh would not listen to me or follow my advice. But with SRFI she had.

We do not put pressure on ourselves. Joshna is a strong personality and can not be bullied. She has been very independent form a young age. We have encouraged her to make her own choices, and we want her to have fun and enjoy squash. But enjoy squash with the with the surprise of the strong strong that Joshna does not neglect her studies. Josh put pressure on us when she announced that she was going to beat Mekhala, a few months ago! I am just kidding. I knew she had it in her to do sit.

She is as normal as any other teenager - has lots of friends, most unaffected by her champion status. A loving, generous kid, though at times she can be stubborn. She enjoys swimming, reading and listening to music.

She won the overall athletics championship on her school sports day. She won four gold medals and one silver. 200m run, relay, high jump etc.

Mr. Rakesh Lakhanpal (Hon. Member of ISP & Director of Switcher) & Mr. Robin Cornelius M.D. of Switcher sponsored Joshna and her rackets were given by Wilson.

Figure

Vikram Malhotra receives the Air-India-SRAM U-13 trophy from HRH Tunku Imran.

Vikram - Rising Son

By Don Monteiro

From wondering what he was initiated into a year and a half ago to becoming a champion squash player in his age group has been a remarkable journey and a surprise reward for preseverance for young Vikram Maihotra. Ten titles later, in the under-11 category, including the prestigious Hong Kong Junior Open and The Nationals, this Std. V latd from Beacon High School, Khar surely is on a roll. It was no smooth sailing though. From being taught how to hold a squash racquet by dad Shiv and man Anita, to joining the big league with professional training has been a long, hard season of toil and sacrifice. But Vikram endured it all to reflect what champions are made of. Along the way he staved off the formidable challenge of the Little Dynamo' Vif-Seth and Jay Dalal.

Virkam passed through his formative years under the watchful eyes of his father, but the big break came when he was chosen by the Squash Racquets Association of Maharashtra to travel to Kuala Lumpur, along with other promising state juniors, to train under renowned Malaysian coach K.H. Ong. The scheme was part of an exchange programme initiated by the SRAM in its endeavour to promote squash at the grass roots level. The training stift in the Malaysian capital worked wonders in Virkam's game. The difference was real. In the process, his confidence grew as he began playing acquessive soussh. Shi Malhorat then requested state player, amit Chinait to further hone Virkam's

skills. It did not take long for the results to show. Barely a month out of the under-11 category Vikram stunned the squash circuit by claiming his maiden under-13 title with a memorable 9-4 10-99-7 triumph over title favorite. Naishad Lalwani in the first of the three-leg 2nd Air-India-SRAM Junior tournament, which was held at the Khar Gymkhana from December 18 to 20, 2000.

"Ever since he began training under Amit, Vikram's court-craft has improved and he has become a deceptive player," reveals Shiv.

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NEWS NEWS NEWS

INTERNATIONAL

Ajan Paino Finnish Open, Helsinki: 18-12-2000 Final:
Mens: Peter Genever (Eng) bt John Williams (Aus) 15-13
15-9 6-15 15-7 Women's: Jenny Tranfield (Eng) bt Salma

Shabana (Egy) 10-99-19-5

Head Asia Cap. Kuala Lumpur: 17-12-2000 Final:
Malaysia beat Pakistan 2-1 Ong Beng Hee beat Amjad
Khan 9-1 3-9 9-0 9-3 Sharon Wee beat Bushra Haider 9-4
9-0 9-2 Kenneth Low losto Mansoor Zaman 5-9 7-9 7-9

Monte Carlo Classic, Monaco : 16-12-2000 Final: Fiona Geaves (Eng) bt Stephanie Brind (Eng)

6-91-99-79-29-3

OSK Mafaysian Open, Kuala Lumpur: 9-12-2000

Final: Ong Beng Hee (MAS) bt John Williams (AUS) 16-17 15-6 15-8 15-10 Women's Antibes Open France 9-12-2000 Final: Janie Thacker (ENG) bt Cheryl Beaumont (ENG)

Women's Universal SportsClub Classic, Lambs Club, London; 8-12-2000 Final: Sarah Fitz-Gerald (AUS) bt

Carol Owens (AUS) 3-9 9-69-39-1

YMG Cap Classic, Toranto, Canada: 1-12-00 Finals:
Jonathon (Can) bt Peter Nicol (Sco) 15-8 15-4 15-5

Bronxville Field Club Squash Open, New York Final: Vanessa Atkinson (NED) bt Pamela Nimmo (SCO) 9-36-99-39-2

■ Women's World Team Championship, England: 25-11-2009, Final: England bt Australia 2-1 Linda Chamal lost to Sarah Fitz-Gerald 5-9 0-9 4-9 Tania Balley bt Natalie Grinham 9-1 9-0 9-0 Stephanie Brind bt Robyn Cooper 9-6 9-40-9 9-3

Final: Carol Owens (AUS) bt Leilani Joyce (NZL)
7-93-910-89-69-1

7-93-9 10-89-59-1

PMC Investments. Florida Open : 12-11-00 Final:
Jonathon Power bt Martin Heath 12-15 15-11 15-10 15-3

MACAU OPEN. Macau : 6-11-2000 Final:
Omar Elborolosy (EGY) bt One Bend Hee (MAS)

17-1615-1017-15

US Open Championship, Boston, USA; 4-11-00 Final:
Jonathon Power (CAN) bt Simon Parke (ENG)

Jonathon Power (CAN) bt Simon Parke (ENG)
15-311-1515-1215-12
Grasshopper Cup. Zurich. Switzerland: 30-10-00
Final: Mens: John Williams (AUS) bt Olli Tuominen (FIN)

15-8 15-7 15-1 Women's : Jenny Tranfield (ENG) bt Isabelle Stoehr (FRA) 9-39-59-4 Chestnut Hill Springside Women's Open,

Chestnut Hill Springside Women's Open,
Philadelphia, USA: 28-10-2000 Final: Carol Owens
(AUS) bt Annelize Naude (RSA) 9-19-29-2

Bolle Open, New York, USA: 27-10-2000 Final: Derek Ryan bt Juha Raumolin 8-15 15-12 11-15 15-12 15-12 Carol Weymuller Open, New York; 22-10-00 Final: Leilani Joyce (NZL) bt Linda Charman (ENG) 9-59-29-1

Leilani Joyce (NZL) bt Linda Charman (ENG) 9-59-29-1
■ Motor City Open, Detroit, USA : 22-10-2000 Final:
David Palmer (AUS) bt Alex Gough (WAL)
10-15 11-15 15-12 15-8 15-7

■ British Open 15-10-2000 Final: Mens: David Evans bt Paul Price 15-11 15-6 15-10 Women: Leilani Joyce bt Sue Wright 9-79-49-2

Ciutat de Barcelona Open, Spain : 8-10-2000 Final: Mike Corren (AUS) bt Mika Monto (FIN) 15-12 15-11 9-15 15-11

INDLAN

CORPORATE SQUASH: 21-09-2000. Shiraz Poonevala of HS8C prevailed over Navalbir Kumar of ANZ Asset Mgmt. 15-615-1215-9 in the finals of the Salver Category (35-40 yrs) to win the GESCO Corporate Squash Championship at the CCI Squash Courts on Saturday.

THE INDIA CEMENTS JUNIOR/SUB-JUNIOR NATIONAL SQUASH, Chennai 13-10-2000



Mr. Khalid Ansari (President, SRAM), Sandeep Jhangra(U-13), Alisha Mashruwala (Giris U-11), Vishal Rappor (U-17) Mr. Mahendra Agarwal (Hon. Sec. SRAM), Vikram Malhotura (U-11) & Bikram Uberei (U-19) at the felicitation function for the winners of JR./Sub Jr. Nationals held by SRAM at Otters Club.

Results Finals: Boys: Under- 19: Bixmar Uberoi (Mah) th Janual Rahami (Mah) 93 - 90 - 92 Under-17: Vistal Bix Kappor (Mah) bi Yashvardhan Singh (MP) 9- 93 - 92 Under- 13: Vistal Rangor (Mah) 19: Saragor (Mah) 19: Saragor (Mah) 19: Saragor (Mah) 19: Mayar (Mhai) 19: 19: Under-11: Vistam Mahnot Jangar (Jaha) 19: 19: 10: Under-11: Vistam Mahnot (Mah) bi Vir Seth (Mah) 9-9 - 93 - 91: Girls: Under-19: Valdeli Redof (M) NJ Joshna Chinagor (M) 95: 92-10: Under-15: Alisha Mashruwallah (Mah) bi Natasha Lall (Mah) 90: 92-10: Mah

THE 25TH HBSC MAHARASHTRA STATE OPEN SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP 18 Nov 2000

SSUASH CHART PINES THE WAY TO A STATE AND A STATE AND

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TATIONAL SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP CHENNAL 16TH DEC 2000 All Final Men: Ritwik Bhattacharya (Del) bt Manish Chotrani (Mah) 6-9 9-0 9-6 Professionals: Balamurugan (TN) bt Mahesh Verma (Mah) 9-1 9-7 9-5 Bank of Punjab-ASPN Chandigarh Circuit 11-12-2000
The squash circuit was held at St. John's school,
Chandigarh and was organized by Amitol Inder Singh. The
tournament was grand success as many as 30 players
participated in it. Mr. Amitol wants to continue the same in
Himachal Pradesh & Dehradun.

Results Pro-quarter: Parana Sharma[] Int Kanan (PRS). 99-90-93 Admin mol[] bit Top Parana Shaphil P. 99-90-93 Admin mol[] bit Top Parana Shaphil P. 99-90-95 As Sama Baraji Mahagan Parabolo(3) bit Dagahari (4) was Anjan Mahagan (4) wa

Prabhjot 6-9 9-7 9-3 9-2

EAST INDIA SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP 25-12-2000



Newly-crowned National champion Ritwik Bhatlacharya do wned Maharashtra' Bikram Uberoi to retain his title in the East India squash chamionship at the Calcutta Rackets Club. Bhatlacharya as taken to five games before quelling the challenge of Uberoi. Ritwik won 7-9 9-5 9-2 5-99-0.

Other results: Boy Under-19 Dhruv Dhavan bt Shakti Singh 9-2 9-1 9-4 Boy Under-17 Dhuv Dhavan bt K Mansata 9-09-09-5

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