



# First Serve

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## Scholarship Recipients Honored at AGM

Tennis Manitoba recognized the recipients of the 2004 Scholarships at its Annual General Meeting on November 13th at the Winter Club. The winners are selected by the Scholarship Committee based on ability, attitude, sportsmanship and need.

Michael Downey, President and CEO of Tennis Canada, was in Winnipeg to present the Scholarship awards to the junior players. The female winners were Anita Paskvalin and Clarissa Chen and the male recipients were Chad LaCap and Alex Lesiuk. Each of these juniors was awarded \$250 to assist them with their tennis expenses.

Anita Paskvalin is the top U14 female player in Manitoba and represented our province at the Indoor and Outdoor Junior Nationals in 2004. She is currently a member of the 2005 Canada Games Training Team and the Provincial team. Anita finished 5th at the Manitoba Open this past summer.

Clarissa Chen is the #2 ranked U14 female player in Manitoba and represented our province at the Indoor and Outdoor Junior Nationals in 2004. She is currently a member of the Provincial Team.

Alex Lesiuk is the top U14 male player in the province and captured the U14 Prairie Regional Championship in 2004. He represented Manitoba at the Indoor and Outdoor Junior Nationals in 2004 and is a member of the 2005 Canada Games Training Team and the Provincial Team.

Chad LaCap is the top U12 male player in the province and he won the U12 Prairie Regional Championship in 2004. He followed that up with a 5th place finish at the U12 Junior Nationals in St. Catharines. Chad also represented Manitoba at the U14 Indoor and Outdoor Junior Nationals and he is a member of the 2005 Canada Games Training Team and the Provincial Team.

Congratulations to each of these fine young athletes!



Michael Downey, President & CEO-Tennis Canada



**Michael Downey** - Tennis Canada President & CEO  
**Anita Paskvalin** - 2004 Scholarship Recipient

## President's Message



As this newsletter is delivered into your hands, tennis players in Manitoba are either in the middle of the indoor season or waiting out the winter while looking forward to a return to the outdoor courts in the spring of 2005.

Behind the scenes, the newly elected Board of Directors of Tennis Manitoba is digging in, forming committees and formulating plans to foster the growth of the game in Manitoba. As the new President of Tennis Manitoba, I'm happy to be able to report that you have elected a strong slate of personalities, representing clubs from across the city who are passionate about the game and prepared to work hard to make the next twelve months a time of tangible positive developments in all areas of the game of tennis in our province.

Tennis Manitoba looks to our parent organization Tennis Canada for guidance in creating a framework that will allow us to maximize our resources and our commitment to the game. Our hope is to use the time and energy of the dedicated members who serve on the boards of the clubs around the city and the province together with the members of the board of Tennis Manitoba to really make a difference.

I'm particularly lucky to be working with a great executive - Vice President Jamie Mercury and Secretary-Treasurer Hart Pollack, and to have the support of the Executive Director of Tennis Manitoba, Rick Bochinski. We're looking forward to improving the competitiveness of Manitoba's elite junior players, heightening the experiences of all ages of competitive players and putting grassroots programs in place to encourage more new players to have success when they try the game of tennis.

Communication will be a constant theme this year. All of us hope to hear more from you, the membership of our clubs. We want to know what your expectations of Tennis Manitoba are and how you think we can do a better job on your behalf. At the same time, expect to hear more from us - in person at your tournaments and club events and through this newsletter and on the Internet.

Here's to more and better tennis in the year ahead - great competition, fair play and lots of fun.

Jim Millican,  
President,  
Tennis Manitoba.



Thank you to Global, title sponsor for the  
2004 Manitoba Open

## Did You Know...

\* That the Kildonan Tennis Club has been selected as the host for the 2005 Manitoba Open. It will be the 100th Anniversary of the tournament and sure to be the highlight of the summer on the local tennis scene.

\* That **Bob Akman** of Winnipeg is the new representative from the Prairie Region on the Board of Directors of Tennis Canada.

\* That Nick Bolletieri's Tennis In A Can Program is coming to Canada. Selected schools will be receiving a kit, including racquets, balls and resource materials, that will enable them to start a tennis program. As targeted communities in Tennis Canada's Building Tennis Communities initiative, Selkirk, Brandon and Portage la Prairie will each receive one kit for a school in the community.

\* That **Sean** and **Chad LaCap** are competing in the Eddie Herr International Tournament, the Prince Cup and the Orange Bowl in Florida in December.

\* That Peter Otto, Robert Kennedy and Victor Messejnikov are running mini-tennis programs, using mini-nets, racquets and sponge balls, to introduce children to tennis. For further information contact Rick Bochinski at 925-5660.

\* That the 2005 Canada Summer Games training team has been reduced to the following athletes: **Erica Chen, Stephanie Lacey-Avon, Jessi-Beth McCannell, Anita Paskvalin, Shereen Ismath, Alexa Zayac, Sean LaCap, Chad LaCap, Sean Bailey, Matt Luczynski, Matt Younger, Michael Black, and Alex Lesiuk.**

\* That Tennis Ontario has again agreed to host a U12 Outdoor National Championship in July, 2005.

\* That Spain captured the 2004 Davis Cup with a 3-1 victory over the United States and Russia claimed the Federation Cup title with a 3-2 win over France.

## POLLACK CAPTURES WINTER CLUB OPEN TITLE

Hart Pollack breezed through the Winnipeg Winter Club Open without dropping a set enroute to capturing the Men's Open Singles Championship. He defeated Stephen Dubiensi 6-3, 6-4 in the final and then set his sights on capping the weekend with a win in the Men's Doubles Championship. Dubiensi exacted a measure of revenge though, teaming up with Mike Lodewyks to defeat Pollack and his partner, Geoff Kirbyson, 7-6 (4), 5-7, 7-6 (3) in a very exciting three-hour marathon.

Joanna Woo defeated Alexa Zayac 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 to win the Women's Open Singles title and Roland Burrell teamed up with Zayac to capture the Mixed Doubles championship with a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Ileana Ursatanu and Frank Kollar.

Other winners included:

Men's B Singles	Luis Frugoni def. Jeremy Rabbitte 6-3, 6-2
Men's C Singles	Glen Dyck def. Jim Gillies 6-3, 3-6, 6-4
Men's B Doubles	Matt & Adam Luczynski def. Michael Black & Alex Lesiuk
Women's B Singles	Erica Chen def. Kate McKenzie 6-4, 7-5
Women's C Singles	Jaimie Peterson def. Carolyn Derksen w/o
Women's Doubles	Gerry Taillieu & Rhonda Manning def. Erica Chen & Anita Paskvalin

## 2004-2005 Board of Directors

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## PROVINCIAL TEAM PROGRAM UP AND RUNNING

In an effort to assist the top junior players in the province, Tennis Manitoba has reintroduced the Provincial Team Program after a lengthy hiatus. In order to compete at the National Level it is apparent that the elite junior players need to train together on a regular basis, improve their level of fitness and play more competitive matches.

Members of the Provincial Team are put through their paces in fitness sessions twice per week at the Winnipeg Winter Club and train on-court every third weekend with Jared Connell, who has been hired as the Provincial Coach. In addition, members of the team will be traveling to a minimum of three tournaments outside of Manitoba during the winter months to compete against the top players from Saskatchewan and the USTA/Northern Section.

The following players are members of the Provincial Team:

### **Tour Team**

Michael Black  
Clarissa Chen  
Erica Chen  
Shereen Ismath  
Chad LaCap  
Sean LaCap  
Alex Lesiuk  
Matt Luczynski  
Anita Paskvalin  
Eric Pollard  
Jeremy Trinidad

### **Agassi Team**

Daniel Breslauer  
Brendan Corrigan  
Ahmed Farag  
Alex Minuk  
Saul Shrom

### **Capriati Team**

Emily Fridrik  
Erika Fridrik  
Jade Kirstein  
Maya Kirstein  
Katy Lesiuk  
Jaimie Peterson  
Daniella Silva  
Jessica Silva  
Evann Waschuk

## INDOOR JUNIOR NATIONALS QUALIFYING

Tennis Manitoba and Tennis Saskatchewan have agreed to pool the spots for the 2005 Indoor Junior Nationals, meaning the top 4 boys and the top 4 girls in each age group in the Prairie Region will qualify for Nationals.

Each player will count their best two results from the three tournaments listed below and the top 4 players in the point standings will qualify for Nationals. All three tournaments will include feed-in consolations in all events and players will be allowed to enter a maximum of two events in each tournament. The host province will try to arrange billets for the players who are traveling to the tournament.

The dates for the qualifying tournaments are as follows:

<b>February 3-6, 2005</b>	Saskatoon
<b>February 17-20, 2005</b>	Winnipeg Winter Club
<b>March 3-6, 2005</b>	Saskatoon

The dates for Indoor Junior Nationals are as follows:

- **April 2-9:** U14 Canadian Indoor Junior Championships, Edmonton, AB
- **April 10-17:** U16 Canadian Indoor Junior Championships, Repentigny, QC
- **April 18-23:** U18 Canadian Indoor Junior Championships, Toronto, ON



## Gerry Labies (1927-2004) Notes From a Friend

I never had a tennis lesson. Because of the years I played with Gerry, I received more lessons than anybody could ever pay for. "Watch the ball, let's get to the net, plant your feet before volleying, hold your racquet head up", were just some of the hints that are permanently stored in my memory as advice from Gerry. Tennis was a major part of his life where the Winnipeg Lawn and Wildwood Clubs figured prominently. He even was ground keeper at the old courts on Roslyn Road. Those were red clay courts and he had figured out perfectly how

to maintain the right level of moisture, not by endless watering, but by applying ample, but just the right amount of salt to extract the moisture from the air. He was an accomplished intelligent player, and when you look at the trophy collection in the Wildwood club, you frequently see his name, as well as that of his daughter Helen, who became Manitoba Champion numerous times. And his granddaughter Victoria shows the same talent and gives many adult players a run for their money, a likely reflection of the good tennis genes she inherited from her grandfather. Gerry also gave generously to the sport he loved so much and devoted much time to officiating and training umpires. He was appointed referee at the 1973 National Championship and many of you may remember that he umpired the matches Boris Becker vs Kevin Curren and Vitas Gerulaitis vs Andrew Sznajder in the Winnipeg Arena in 1987. Those were difficult tasks, because as umpire he was not just a score-keeper, but also had to control and direct fairly inexperienced crews of linesmen and ball boys. This situation improved when he took control of it himself. For the 1999 Pan-Am Games and a preceding Challenger tournament he was in charge of training umpires and linesmen. He did this very successfully and his persistent aim for perfection ensured that the tournaments took place without a glitch in officiating. Gerry tolerated no errors in line calling or score counting. In this context it was hard for him to accept that this was done by people and that they all are just plain human. Many of those Gerry trained are still officiating today, and some of them at the National level. In recognition for his efforts he received the Distinguished Service Award from Tennis Canada.

Gerry passed away on October 6, 2004. He will be missed for his common sense and good judgement, for his clear logical mind, his aim for perfection, his friendships, his willingness to help, and for his modesty. He was a great teacher.

A celebration of Gerry's life was held at the Wildwood Club with a very large number of Manitoba tennis friends in attendance.

Klaus Wrogemann

Tennis Manitoba will be hosting an officiating clinic in the spring. We are looking for tennis enthusiasts who would be interested in joining the Tennis Canada Officiating Program. Please call Rick at 925-5660 if you are interested or require further information.

## Canadian Rankings (as of December 2, 2004)

### Women's Singles

1. Marie-Eve Pelletier (QC)
  2. Maureen Drake (ON)
  3. Stephanie Dubois (QC)
  4. Melanie Gloria (QC)
  5. Beier Ko (ON)
  6. Melanie Marois (QC)
  7. Erica Biro (ON)
  8. Alexandra Wozniak (QC)
  9. Aneta Soukup (ON)
  10. Tania Rice (ON)
- 47T. Alia Kalicinsky (MB)**  
**51T. Alexa Zayac (MB)**  
**96T. Misa Simonova (MB)**  
**107T. Kyla McNicol (MB)**  
**124T. Agatha Yong (MB)**

### Men's Singles

1. Frank Dancevic (QC)
  2. Frederic Niemeyer (QC)
  3. Simon Larose (QC)
  4. Michal Cizek (QC)
  5. Andrew Piotrowski (ON)
  6. Sanjin Sadovich (BC)
  7. Dejan Cvetkovic (BC)
  8. Robert Steckley (ON)
  9. Matt Klinger (ON)
  10. Philip Gubenco (QC)
- 15. Doug DeVriendt (MB)**  
**29. Evan Mancer (MB)**  
**37. Patrick Millican (MB)**  
**46T. Sean LaCap (MB)**  
**59T. Roland Burrell (MB)**  
**63T. Hart Pollack (MB)**  
**68. Chris Yard (MB)**  
**82. Mark Arndt (MB)**  
**88T. Jamie Mercury (MB)**  
**101T. Geoff Kirbyson (MB)**

### Women's Doubles

1. Maureen Drake (ON)
  2. Aneta Soukup (ON)
  3. Marie-Eve Pelletier (QC)
  4. Stephanie Dubois (QC)
  5. Melanie Marois (QC)
  6. Sonya Jeyasseelan (ON)
  7. Erica Biro (ON)
  8. Robin Stephenson (ON)
  9. Katarina Zoricic(ON)
  10. Alexandra Wozniak (QC)
- 44T. Alia Kalicinsky (MB)**  
**44T. Eva Kalicinsky (MB)**  
**61. Hiroko Kumagai (MB)**  
**74T. Agatha Yong (MB)**  
**81T. Erica Chen (MB)**

### Men's Doubles

1. Daniel Nestor (ON)
  2. Philip Gubenco (QC)
  3. Frank Dancevic (ON)
  4. Frederic Niemeyer (QC)
  5. Matt Klinger (ON)
  6. Michal Cizek (QC)
  7. Sanjin Sadovich (BC)
  8. Pieree Ludovic-Duclos (QC)
  9. Dejan Cvetkovic (BC)
  10. Simon Larose (QC)
- 29T. Doug DeVriendt (MB)**  
**29T. Evan Mancer (MB)**  
**29T. Sean LaCap (MB)**  
**37. Geoff Kirbyson (MB)**  
**40. Mark Arndt (MB)**  
**44T. Chris Yard (MB)**  
**48T. Patrick Millican (MB)**  
**54. Roland Burrell (MB)**  
**61. Hart Pollack (MB)**  
**77T. Peter Otto (MB)**

## Aboriginal Winter Tennis Program

Through generous support from Leonard Asper at Global Television and the inspiration of Bill Serbin, an aboriginal winter tennis program has been introduced at Taylor Tennis Club this year. The first 10 week phase of the program has just been completed with as many as 12 youths taking part in the Wednesday after school program.

The first phase had the juniors and youth from Rossbrook house attending and learning forehands, backhands, serving and smashes, mixed in with some fun games like King/Queen of the court, tennis baseball and big belly tennis. The kids were treated to a visit from the Arby's Oven mitt mascot and played for a variety of prizes. A great time and a wonderful learning experience was had by all participants, team leaders and especially the on court coaches, Bill Serbin and Peter Otto.

The program was created to give an opportunity to youth that would ordinarily not have the chance to experience and learn the great game of tennis. Judging by the thank you notes and letters I received from the kids, it will be an opportunity they will always remember. Many of them hope they can continue to learn and play for many years to come!

Thanks to all the juniors for respecting the rules of the club, your superb listening skills, and your cooperation skills with your fellow junior tennis players, coaches and team leaders. Your courtesy and politeness were appreciated by all that came in contact with you.

Special Thanks to Roy and James Warman of Taylor Tennis Club, who opened up their courts to share Tennis with the juniors from Rossbrook House. The kids loved the facility and the fact they could play tennis in the winter. A great time was had by all!

Peter Otto



**Thank you to the above  
sponsors of the  
2004 Manitoba Open!**



*According to the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute (CFLRI), the proportion of Canadians who are active in their leisure time has increased since 1981. Today, twice as many adult Canadians are getting the equivalent of one hour of exercise daily. (20% of Canadians reported being active in 1981, compared to 41% in 2000.) While improving, the research also indicates that a majority of Canadians, 55%, are still physically inactive – and Manitoba ranks near the top at 59%. Manitoba has established a goal of increasing the number of active individuals from 41% to 51% by 2010.*

#### **“A Promise...A Pledge...A Plan...GET MOVING MANITOBA”**

**GET MOVING MANITOBA** is an initiative of the Physical Activity Coalition of Manitoba (PACM) and the CBC. **GET MOVING MANITOBA** is intended to increase awareness of the importance of physical activity and assist in getting more Manitobans regularly active. The campaign kicks off

with the introduction of a website on December 4, 2004 (link through [www.winnipeg.cbc.ca](http://www.winnipeg.cbc.ca)) and continues with a CBC (Radio and Television) information campaign. Highlighting the initiative are numerous province-wide physical activity events on January 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2005, designed to get Manitobans started in their active living lifestyles.

#### **What is GET MOVING MANITOBA?**

**GET MOVING MANITOBA** is all about helping individuals get more active. Research tells us that making a pledge or developing a personal plan may increase the probability of committing to a new behaviour. **GET MOVING MANITOBA** encourages individuals to make a personal pledge – a pledge to engage in an appropriate amount of regular physical activity in order to achieve health benefits. In addition to making a pledge, the **GET MOVING MANITOBA** website provides links to information and resources that support and provide guidance for becoming more physically active.

#### **How you can get involved**

Visit our website and consider making a lifestyle pledge – as an individual, family, workgroup, class, etc... A pledge can be as simple as stating you'll park at the farthest end of the parking lot when

going to work. It's the first step in getting moving.

You might also want to organize an activity – get your community involved in an event that gets people moving; challenge a neighboring school in a fun indoor or outdoor event; join a sports league or just play some road hockey with your kids.

Finally, participate in one of the many events taking place throughout the province on January 7 and 8, 2005. And, on January 8<sup>th</sup>, one provincial event will be the backdrop for the CBC Sports Saturday telecast. Check out the website regularly for activity updates and other **GET MOVING MANITOBA** information.

#### **For more information or to contact us:**

**Event Coordinator: David Bosiak**  
**(204) 782-8236**  
[dbosiak@mts.net](mailto:dbosiak@mts.net)

A project by:



Physical Activity Coalition of Manitoba

and



# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



## From the staff and Board of Tennis Manitoba