

'Strongest field ever' highlights clay court tourney

By Marty Budner
staff writer

If you want to see some good tennis this weekend, Charlie Rothstein says the Detroit Tennis and Squash Club is the place to be.

The Farmington Hills club will host the 1983 Silvers and Buddy's Invitational Tennis Tournament starting today. It is the richest, and promises to be the most competitive of the club's previous 10 tournaments.

"People will love the tennis that will be played here this weekend," said Rothstein, one of the tournament's di-

rectors. "It will be an outstanding field and hopefully the weather will hold out for us."

The \$10,000 tournament, which will be played on clay, is divided into four different age divisions. They include men's singles, men's 35 and over, men's 45 and over and men's 55 and over.

The singles draw, however, will highlight the internationally-flavored tournament.

Of the 32 players, 20 have rankings from the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP). Another — Michigan's Luke Jensen — is ranked No. 1 in the Midwest, and Tom Foster of Georgia is

the United States amateur clay-court champion.

THE NO. 1 seeded player is Mario Martinez of Bolivia who is ranked No. 59 in the world. The 21-year-old South American was ranked No. 38 two years ago.

South African Derek Tarr (No. 2), American David Carter (No. 3), American Eric Bakervy (No. 4), American Terry Moor (No. 5), Rick Fagel (No. 6), Mike Gandolfo (No. 7) and Gabriel Mattus (No. 8) are the tournament's other seeded players.

Aaron Krickstein of Grosse Pointe, one of the country's top junior players, is unseeded and plays his first match 3 p.m. Friday against Foster.

Jeff Elterbeck, a graduate of Cranbrook High School, and Ed Nagel, a West Bloomfield High School graduate, will also play. The tournament's defending champion is unseeded Maurice Hunter.

"This is one of the finest tournaments because we've always drawn a number of strong players," said Rothstein, who lives in Birmingham. "We have more money than we have ever offered before, plus we publicized it in a

newsletter and we've been preparing it for about three months now."

Rothstein indicated the players are also interested in getting a fast start on the clay-court season. "We have some of the most beautiful clay courts around," he said. "I think the players would rather play on clay courts at this stage of the season because there are no grass-court tournaments after England (Wimbledon). And it gets expensive going to England."

ADAM ROTHSTEIN (Birmingham), Ion Harris (Southfield), Ken Frank (Southfield), Hal Jolley (Rochester) and

Dan Bromberg (Birmingham) are some other area players on hand.

A two-day, 80-person qualifying tournament concludes today. The top 10 players from that tournament play in the Silvers/Buddy's singles tournament.

The Silvers/Buddy's singles tourney winner receives \$4,000 and the runner-up will take home \$1,700.

Jon Hainline of Bloomfield Hills is the No. 1 seed in the 35-and-over division.

The Detroit Tennis and Squash Club is located on Drake Road, just south of 14 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

200 juniors rattle courts at Franklin

Memorial Day was not exactly a day of rest for a large group of tennis enthusiasts at Franklin Racquet Club.

Approximately 200 players competed in the Franklin Memorial Day Junior Open Tennis Tournament, May 27-30. Entrants hailed from Canada, Wisconsin, Indiana and Ohio as well as Michigan.

In the girls' age 10 division, Marlinda Kendrick was crowned champ after beating Michelle Harris, 6-1, 6-2. In the girls' age 12 group, Pam Ali defeated Nicole Transou, 6-4, 6-4 for the title.

Nationally-ranked Wendy Stross of Ann Arbor topped Carrie Cunningham, 6-1, 6-0 to take the girls' 14 championship, while Linda Pursell grabbed the girls' 16 division win with a pair of 6-2 victories over Madeline Williams of Grosse Pointe. In the girls' 18 group finals, it was Danielle Durak over Megan Foster, 6-3, 6-0.

Jeff Giraldo took home the boys' age 10 division trophy following 6-0, 6-0 shutouts over Greg Artz, and Anthony Mikulek won the age 12 group championship with a pair of 6-2 wins over George Earl.

The boys' 14 title was won by Chris Jones, who came back from a 3-6 first-match defeat at the hands of Mike Herb to take the division win with 6-1, 6-0 victories.

In the boys' 16 group, Malival Washington beat Anthony Florenco, 6-1, 6-4 for the championship, while the boys' 18 title was wrapped up by Kevin Donase, who scored 6-4, 6-2 victories over John Zeppa.

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