12,4,6

THE COCA-COLA BOTTLERS NATIONAL JUNIOR TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

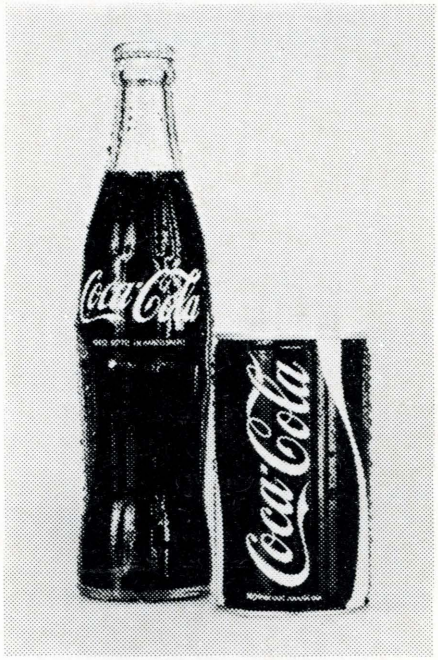
GELVANDALE

PORT ELIZABETH

29th JUNE – 4th JULY 1979

Als is lekkerder met Coke.

Gereg. Handelsmerk



"Coca-Cola" en "Coke" is die geregistreerde handelsmerk van Die Coca-Cola Maatskapp

12.4.6

MESSAGE FROM THE COCA-COLA BOTTLERS CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER MR J. H. VILJOEN

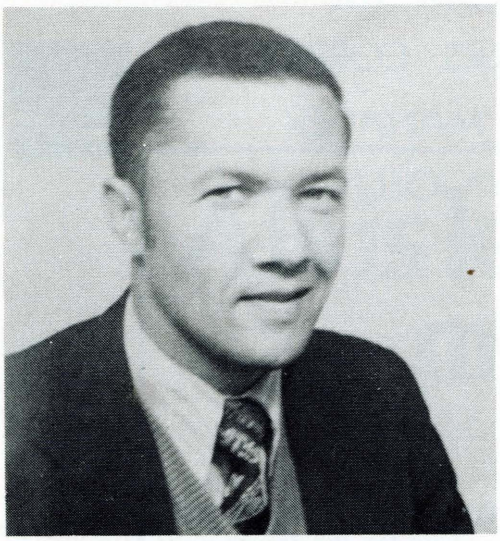
The Coca-Cola Bottler's sponsorship of the Southern Africa Lawn Tennis Union's National Junior Championships for the fourth consecutive year, is to my Company indeed a pleasure.

The increase in sponsorship together with the provision of medals for the Girls and Boys finalists as well as two Mert awards in the form of floating trophy shields, is attributable in no small way to the high standards of achievements attained by your Union for youth over the past years.

The reward we enjoy is the knowledge of the contribution of our sponsorship towards the development, improvement and enjoyment of tennis among the youth of our Country.

It is the sincere wish of my Company that your championships will be contested in the very best of sporting spirits with the game of tennis the overall winner.

J. H. Viljoen
Corporate Development Manager



MESSAGE FROM THE EASTERN PROVINCE SECRETARY

Greetings from Port Elizabeth —
The Friendly City. The Eastern Province Tennis Union feels honoured to be hosts to the officials, conveners and juniors of TASA, at the first Coca-Cola-sponsored National Junior Tournament since the formation of TASA.

Down the years our local juniors have distinguished themselves at national level, starting in 1960 when 17-year old Shirley Petersen from Humansdorp won through to the U.19 final at the Shaefer Courts opposite the Port Elizabeth Airport. Then on to 1967 at East London where Brenda Petersen and Devdas Govindjee won the junior titles for Eastern Province. The following year in Cape Town, Brenda was debarred from playing in the junior event, and Amy Gelderbloem promptly stepped in to win. Brenda won the senior singles and for good measure the two E.P. juniors won the women's doubles. In the seventies the tussles of our own Sandra Petersen and Lorraine Samuels from Elsies River spring to mind, while in 1976 Dorothy Madatt and Lorna Petersen won the U.15 doubles in Kimberley. Last year in Johannesburg Eleanor Petersen and Ingrid Saptoe reached the semis in the U.15 and U.17 doubles.

The fact that the tournament will be held on their own courts should be an incentive to our contingent to equal or better the feats of their predecessors. This will not be easy because from the ranks of the Coca-Cola Junior Tournaments have risen players of stature who will be able to hold their own in any company, when truly non-racial tennis dawns in South Africa.

We owe a deep sense of gratitude to the Samaai brothers and Mr. Carollisen for their unstinting efforts in promoting the game at junior level. If only I had a magic wand, I would certainly spirit one of the Samaai's down to Port Elizabeth . . .

Let's drink a toast of . . . COKE . . . to our sponsors — the bottlers of that finest of drinks — Coca-Cola. Without their generous support, this junior tournament could not have been run on this scale. We urge everyone connected with TASA to drink nothing but . . . COKE.

To the juniors of the various units — regard this tournament as a tennis education. Study the other players, listen to the advice of the referee and other coaches, get physically fit and work hard at your game. Only then will you be able to reach the TOP.

I trust that all visitors will have a fabulous stay in Port Elizabeth.

Yours in sport
Godfrey Saptoe (Hon. Sec.)

MESSAGE FROM YOUR CONVENER

The most gratifying feature of the Easter tournament held at Umlazi was undoubtedly the excellent performances of our junior tennis players. Charmaine Carolissen and Brenda Accom deservedly won the women's events in a draw which included such stars as Miriam Poee, Lettie Jemane, Pascalina Katu and Yvette Petersen. Patrick Carolissen and Russel Woodman won the men's doubles title, and together with Hassan Mahomedy and Glen Samaai forced champion Cavan Bergman to pull out all the stops to win the tournament.

Some of them have just left the junior folds and the others will undoubtedly be in Port Elizabeth for the Coca-Cola National tournament. Though we expect the latter group to continue where they left off in Umlazi, it is by no means assured that they will win the junior titles. Such is the standard in the junior ranks.

There are quite a few juniors who have not as yet had the opportunity of taking part in this tournament and there is a strong possibility that some of the holders of titles will find it impossible to ward off the threat posed by them.

The Umlazi tournament has shown, just as other tournaments have done recently, that the Coca-Cola National tournament has changed our tennis scene remarkably. Being a truly national tournament instead of an appendage to the senior event, has given our young players the chance of competing under conditions similar to that which obtain for seniors.

It has also given our junior coaching scheme the fillip that it needed. For this we thank the Coca-Bottlers. They came to our assistance at a time when lack of finance threatened to steer our junior tennis into a cul-de-sac. Now we are entering avenues which are leading us out of the wilderness into which our sport was plunged because of lack of money, facilities and opportunities.

We place on record our appreciation of their assistance and we urge all participants and every one interested in our youth to support them.

The Eastern Province has been one of those centres which has sent contingents to each of our previous tournaments. In fact, the Petersens, Saptoes, Bennets and Fishers have been present

as regularly as the Samaais and Carolissens. They know full well what organising this tournament entails and, considering their past record, they fully deserve the honour of being our hosts. To them all we express our sincere thanks.

Many of the people who have worked behind the scenes to make this tournament possible — parents, coaches and administrators — will not be present at this important occasion. However, we do wish them to know that we appreciate all their sacrifices to make this possible.

TO OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

I consider it a privilege and a great honour to welcome you to this tournament on behalf of the TENNIS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA. This is the first time that the Coca-Cola National junior tournament is held under the banner of TASA and also the first time that it takes place in the Friendly City. We do hope that this will be the first of many TASA tournaments you will attend.

You have been selected to come to Port Elizabeth because of your tennis ability. And though tennis is a sport mainly for the individual, you are not only representing yourself. You are a member of a club, of a Union and, above all, of a community. And while your achievements on the tennis court will be recorded against your name it will also be a credit to your club, your Union and your community.

It is unfortunate, but an indisputable fact of life, that in all sport there has to be a loser; in fact there are more losers than winners. And this, I think, should be the challenge to any sportsman: to be one of the few winners. And if you happen to be one of the many losers, then your aim must be to prepare yourself more adequately for the next opportunity.

We wish you all a happy stay and a very successful tournament.

A. E. Fortuin
Convener

THE TENNIS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The fifth Coca-Cola National tournament for juniors is the first national tournament to be played under the banner of TASA and this is to take place only a few days after its inauguration.

TASA has come into being because of the accepted belief by all its members that all people are equal and that all people should enjoy the same rights and privileges. Its members come from various locations and housing schemes, different estates and townships. They do not all share the same mother-tongue or religion or customs just as white South Africa which has mother-tongues ranging from Afrikaans through English, Greek, Portugese etc. and all kinds or religions from Calvinism to Catholicism.

Its members are kept apart, not because they want to be separate or have to be apart, but because some people SEE differences when it suits them to do so. They play the same sport: tennis; they have the same needs and the same physical characteristics except, perhaps, for one thing: colour. But colour, as everyone knows, is unimportant. It does not prevent heart transplants or blood transfusions from taking place, because all people are the same. Neither does colour mean that you cannot become a champion sportsman, an eminent academic or anything else.

In certain respects the law also thinks so. For example, the prices we pay and the taxes that are collected do not depend upon one's colour; nor is it important when one is expected to defend this country of ours.

The reality is that colour is used to prevent certain sections of the people from sharing in the wealth and prosperity of this country; that it is used to stifle your aspirations and to curb the development of your potential.

To us in TASA the colour of one's skin is as unimportant as the colour of one's eyes or hair and therefore each person should enjoy the same rights and opportunities.

This belief is the direct opposite of that of the rulers of this country, and they have shown that they do not take kindly to such ideas. It is therefore possible that in many ways they will try to undermine us. Laws may be used against us; money may be used to bribe us. One thing each of us needs to remember: WE MAY BE PREVENTED FROM DOING WHAT WE WANT TO DO BUT WE CANNOT BE FORCED INTO DOING THAT WHICH WE DO NOT WANT TO DO.

MESSRS. R. RENAUD, J. H. VILJOEN, AND K. KNOESSEN

During our association with the Coca-Cola Bottlers we have had the privilege of meeting at various times with Mr. R. Renaud, Corporate Development Manager until his departure for Japan in 1977, Mr. J. H. Viljoen, his successor, and Mr. Ken Knoessen, Sports Promotions Manager.

It has been a pleasure working with these gentlemen because of the interest they have shown in our activities and their involvement with our progress. We never felt that our association was a purely business matter and therefore we could accept them as friends.

Their company is indeed fortunate to have men of their calibre at the head of affairs.

THE FRIENDLY CITY

The hopes and aspirations of many tennis players who have played in tournaments in Port Elizabeth, were blown to bits by the notorious winds that usually sweep the southern coasts during the summer months. But on one score all are agreed: P.E. deserves to be called the Friendly City because the hospitality of its people makes it the first claimant to that title.

Our juniors will have the opportunity of experiencing this at first hand. Accommodation has been arranged with families in Port Elizabeth.

We are indeed appreciative of the onerous task they took upon themselves is arranging accommodation in this way, instead of the line of least resistance: to apply for a permit to allow some of their visitors to occupy a hostel reserved for a particular group of students.

On behalf of all the visitors we thank the Eastern Province for their invitation and the hospitality which we will receive.

THE COCA-COLA NATIONAL TOURNAMENT IN RETROSPECT

When our first Coca-Cola tournament was held in Kimberley in 1975 everyone hoped but no one thought that after only four years it would develop into the big success it is at present. One has only to look at the record books to see what contribution these tournaments have made to the tennis scene. Already some have become provincial and National champions and no one can deny that many more will win senior titles in the future.

But the real significance of these tournaments is the fillip it gave to junior coaching. All over the country junior tennis players are busy preparing themselves for this tournament, and many others who have not been selected this year are gearing themselves for the next one.

Many people have contributed towards making this such an important and successful venture, and while it is impossible to mention all by name, we shall be failing in our duty if we did not place on record our thanks to some of those who laid the foundation for the progress we have made

Our Previous Hosts

The tennis administrators in Kimberley (1975 and 1976), Durban (1977) and Johannesburg (1978) are to be thanked and congratulated for the important contribution they have made. Without their hospitality and good organisation these tournaments would surely not have been the unqualified successes they were.

David Samaai

Ever since he organised the first coaching clinic in Wellington in 1962, David Samaai has been the driving force behind the development of our juniors. Born and bred, as he was, in the Boland, he was no Bolander when it came to junior tennis. His love for the game took him all over the country where his services were needed, and nearly all of the top players of the present generation have had the benefit of his coaching or experience.

David Samaai as player has dominated the tennis scene for more than two decades, but his biggest contribution to the sport he loves is, without doubt, that which he gave to our juniors. Without him the tennis scene will never be the same again.

Those of us who had the good fortune to have worked with D. A. Samaai will always consider his greatest attributes to be: Dedication, Application and Selflessness.

Assistants

Mr. Samaai has been fortunate in being able to rely upon the invaluable assistance of Darryl Carolissen, and his brothers Frank and Ivan in running the Coke-Junior.

Darryl, the proud father of Coca-Cola champions, Patrick and Charmaine, has been to Cape Town, what Frank has been to Boland, and David has been to South Africa. Without them and their contributions in their respective areas our progress would surely not have been as phenomenal

Local Coaches

The great leap the game has made during the last few years is a tribute, too, to the voluntary services and dedication of local coaches all over the country. Despite the lack of resources and facilities these men and women have done a sterling job.

Affiliates

One of the main tasks of most of our unions is the development of our juniors. Unfortunately, not every union has done its fair share. The cost and the effort involved and the lack of facilities and coaches have been important factors in this being the case, but this cannot be accepted as good reason for the little activity in some cases. The Western Province and Boland, at a very conservative estimate, have spent between R3 000 and R4 000 each in travelling to the previous tournaments. Not every affiliate is in a position to emulate them, but it proves that something can be done. Many of the other units, as well, have dug deep into their coffers to organise junior coaching and activities. We do hope that this will be the case with all unions.

Our Sponsors

We would have found it impossible to have had these tournaments if it were not for the sponsorship of the Coca-Cola Bottlers of South Africa. Not only did they make it possible for us to divorce the junior event from the senior tournament; their generous assistance acted as an incentive to all unions to make the development of their juniors an urgent priority.

THE FUTURE

Within the space of four years the Coco-Cola National tournament has outgrown its infancy. The widespread interest that has been aroused by the previous tournaments, as well as the formation of the Tennis Association of South Africa, have forced us to give serious consideration to the format to be adopted in the future.

The wider spectrum of the community which TASA caters for has effectively doubled, at least, the number of juniors which will in future be involved. But this is the least of our problems. Because of its non-racial character and the race-orientated climate in which it is to function, TASA will surely have to face quite a few challenges.

School and college hostels, which by their very nature are the special reserves of specific 'ethnic' groups, cannot and dare not be used unless viable alternatives are available. We cannot allow some juniors to enjoy the privilege of sleeping in a hostel when they are denied the right to occupy the same place at any other time.

Then, too, because of the 'ethnic' school holidays we find that freedom of association is very effectively sabotaged. Because of these and other reasons the format has to be changed.

In broad outline the suggestion, which has already been discussed with the sponsor, is:

1. that TASA be divided into 8 regions taking into consideration geography, standard of play and numbers involved;

2. that each region arranges its own Regional Coca-Cola tournament in the age groups applicable to the national tournament;

3. that the regional tournaments be held between June and November on dates mutually agreed to between the regional and national organising committees;

4. that each region be allocated an amount from the annual sponsorship;

5. that the national committee appoints a member to attend regional tournaments with a view to assessing the standard of the participants;

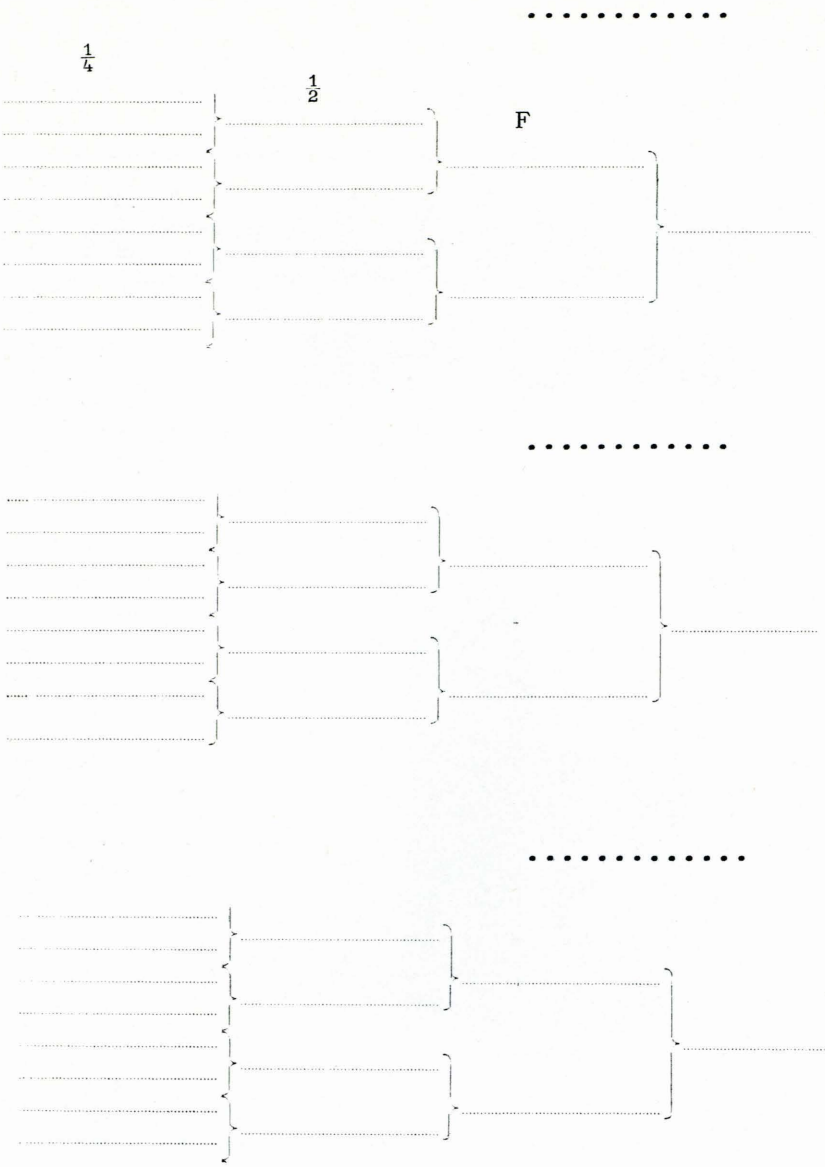
6. that the national organising committee arranges a National tournament by invitation during the December-January school holidays which is the only time that apartheid cannot sabotage our activities.

YOUR HOSTS

President	—	E. J. Fisher
Vice-President	—	B. Draai
Treasurer	—	B. J. Govindjee
Secretary	—	G. W. Saptoe
Ass. Sec.	—	L. C. King
Match Sec.	—	A. Solomon
Ex. Mem.	—	J. Bennet
	—	M. Chetty

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Eddie Fortuin (Convener)
David Samaai (Referee)
Darryl Carolissen
Frank Samaai
Ivan Samaai (Co-opted)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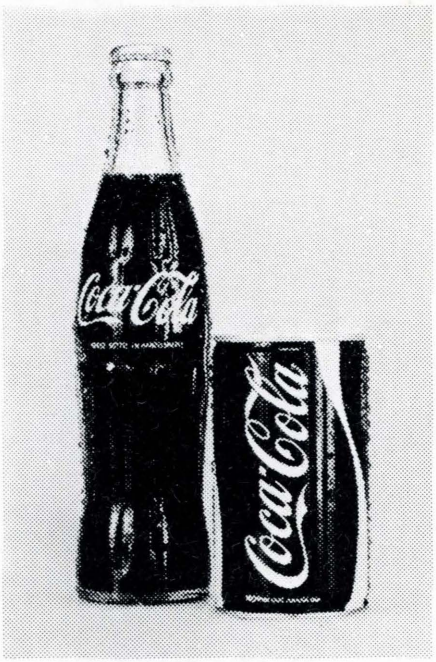
Gereg. Handelsmerk



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