

- Press Release -

**Vancouver Island News Group
supports
Victoria Open Tennis Tournament & Festival**

April 7, 2005; Victoria, B.C. Canada

The 2005 Victoria Open Tennis Tournament & Festival is pleased to announce that the Vancouver Island News Group will be a key supporter of the event to be held May 4 to 15.

Held as the season opener, the tournament is targeting the full range of players – from the first time novice to the seasoned players searching out prize money. Top-notch juniors will be drawn to this National Qualifier, the first for the summer. Even the younger set, seniors and wheelchair athletes have events to participate in.

Held in conjunction with the tournament is a Tennis Festival geared to not only the players, but their families, friends and other tennis enthusiasts. There will be various sessions, fun activities and opportunities to see the latest products and services in the tennis field.

Victoria with its mild climate and even palm trees combined with very entertaining tourist attractions, is the ideal location for this extravaganza which is attracting player interest from all over the Pacific Northwest. The city is well connected with the world-renowned Active Pass ferry ride, the Port Angeles ferry, the fast Seattle Clipper catamaran or float planes that land in the harbour.

The Vancouver Island News Group will present the event through its free home-delivered community papers in Victoria, Saanich, Peninsula, Western Communities, Esquimalt, and Oak Bay with a circulation of over 100,000. As part of its commitment to encourage healthy communities, the News Group will provide coverage in the weeks before and during the event for tennis backgrounders, player profiles and event information.

For more information, view the website at www.VictoriaOpen.ca or contact Ludo Bertsch at (250) 592-1488