

MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

BLACK PRESS COMMUNITY PAPERS TO COVER 2006 RAYMOND JAMES VICTORIA OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

VICTORIA, BC – theClayCourts Sport Inc. proudly announces that Black Press will be a key supporter for the Raymond James Victoria Open Tennis Tournament, the largest tennis tournament on Vancouver Island, Canada.

Over 300 players – from young kids to experienced veterans – are planning to participate from May 3 to June 4 at tennis venues throughout the Greater Victoria area.

Top level juniors will be competing to represent British Columbia in the Nationals, which are held in the summer.

For some players this will be their first tennis tournament - whether a youngster under 10 years old or a newcomer picking up the "sport of a lifetime." Wheelchair athletes will also have an opportunity to play.

Many athletes are drawn to the tournament by the challenge of playing the top players in the province and Pacific Northwest for prize money. Yet other players attend for the sheer love of the sport and for the social aspect of mixed doubles.

Black Press Victoria will feature the series of events through its free home-delivered community newspapers in Victoria, Saanich, Peninsula, Western Communities, Esquimalt and Oak Bay with a circulation of over 100,000. Black Press supports community activities that improve their health and well-being.

Ryan Clark, executive director of Tennis BC, notes that "the greater Victoria area is becoming a leader in the province in tennis with its events and new league system. Having strong companies such as Raymond James and the quality of the Black Press newspapers behind events such as the Victoria Open not only builds a great foundation for the tournament, and a stronger community, but also promotes healthy lifestyles within a great social opportunity."

"The Raymond James Victoria Open is shaping up to be a great must-attend tennis event," says Steve Werner, Branch Manager of the Victoria Raymond James office. "We're looking forward to not only an exciting tournament but also a terrific community event."

Ludo Bertsch of theClayCourts Sport Inc., organizer of the event, is delighted by the support. "The Black Press newspaper coverage gives us the opportunity to showcase local players who can be great role models for our up-and-coming youth to take on 'tennis for life'."

Participants, volunteers and sponsors can check out www.victoriaopen.ca for more information or contact:

Ludo Bertsch, Tournament Coordinator
(250) 592-1488; www.VictoriaOpen.ca

Black Press Victoria publishes award-winning community newspapers in the Greater Victoria region and is located at 818 Broughton St., Victoria, V8W 1E4.

Raymond James is a full-service independent investment dealer; visit www.raymondjames.ca.

theClayCourts Sport Inc. is a BC-based company that supports the sport of tennis and is the organizer of the 2006 Raymond James Victoria Open Tennis Tournament & Tennis Clinic (visit www.theclaycourts.com for more information or phone (250) 592-1488).