

Singles breeze through bracket

■ Saturday's perfect weather prevents excess of midweek makeup matches.

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► Saturday's results, D2

A fabulous day for tennis it was as the singles portion of the Ann Arbor Adult City Tournament got off to a productive start Saturday.

With nearly 12 hours of tennis being played on the afternoon, tournament officials got two of the most crowded divisions — the men's A and 40-plus singles — reduced to the quarterfinal round.

The men's B division still has some matches to be played midweek before reaching the quarterfinals. The remaining singles divisions, men's AA and women's A and B, are all in the semifinal round.

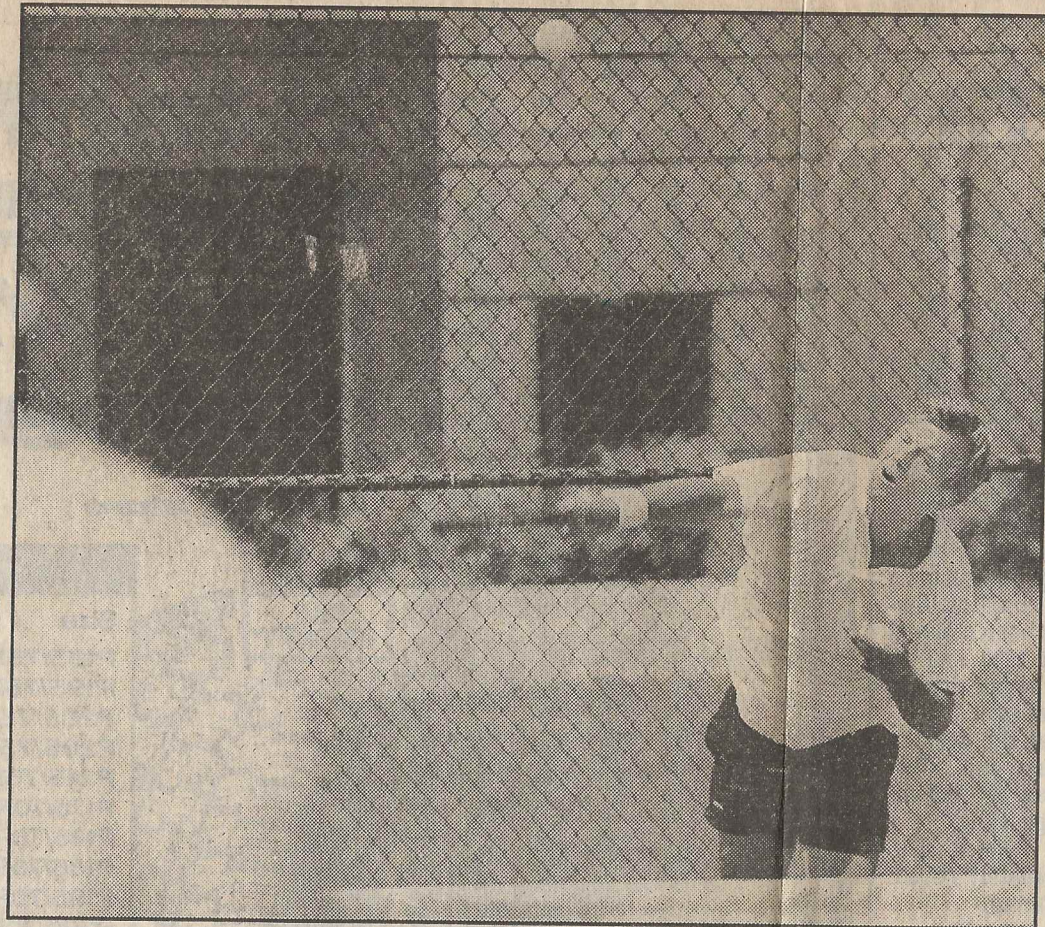
Doubles competition begins at 10:30 a.m. today at Pioneer, Huron and Burns Park.

Here's a look at some of Saturday's more noteworthy events.

NO HOOPS ROWE: Ann Arbor's Jonathan Rowe, 41, felt that basketball was just too tough on his legs. So at the tender age of 38 he learned to play tennis.

Rowe won his first two matches, including a tough 5-7, 6-3, 6-1 second-round win over Tom Nguyen.

Yet, with racket in hand, there's still a hint of his hoop game bound-



Jack Amundsen serves to Jim Hamilton at Pioneer High School during the first day of the Ann Arbor Adult Tennis Tournament. Hamilton, the No. 1 seed in the men's 40-plus division, won 6-3, 6-1.

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DAVE SMITH

CITY ADULT TENNIS

ing around on the hard court.

"I don't have any real tennis strokes so I try to turn the tennis match into a basketball game," Rowe said. "Lots of ugly shots, especially the ones I was hitting off my frame. I don't think he was ready for those."

NEW RACKET CITY: A new tennis racket company debuted at the city tournament.

The Ann Arbor-based Cayman Sports Company had several players hitting with their new rackets, which are produced by the same Taiwanese company that makes the popular Prince racket.

Ann Arbor's Don Selenis, who played the 10-ounce Strike-X, was impressed with its performance. "Very quick at the net," he said

COURT NOISE: "Trying to break my heart, huh?," Jack Amundsen yelled to his opponent, Jim Hamilton.

"That makes my day I guess," Hamilton said of his beautiful, going away running back-hander that scored on Amundsen. Hamilton, the No. 1 seed in the 40-plus division, topped Amundsen 6-3, 6-1.

WHERE'S THE WOMEN?: Due to a lack of entries, the 40-plus women's division had to be moved into the A and B divisions. Only 16 women signed up to play singles.

KOSTA'S STILL GOT IT: Playing in the men's B division, Ann Arbor's John Kosta laid down some nice ground strokes to top Andy Mellifont 6-1, 6-4 in an opening round set. Kosta, who turned 50 this year, has been playing the city tournament since 1979.

"He (Mellifont) played more aggressive and I started doing things I usually can't — like hitting the ball," Kosta joked.

NAME THAT HOLE: Finally, a name for the hole in Huron's court No. 5. "We called it Lake Huron," said former Huron tennis player and coach Bob Perry. "If you stepped in it when it was full of water it would come up to here," he added, pointing to his sock top.

A NEW MR. TENNIS?: Watch out Gordon Boettcher! Your Mr. Tennis title belt may have a challenge in Oliver Wreford.

Not only is Wreford helping Boettcher by running the scene at Huron, he also played a three-set match in men's B singles. Today he'll hook up with Kyle Pullen to play doubles, then run this week's