



*Invesco, The Coca-Cola Company, and Raymond James present
The Miller Zell 2008 U.S. Open Age Division Squash Championships
and U.S. Men's S.L. Green and Women's National Championships*



RAYMOND JAMES
Individual solutions from independent advisors

February/March

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Well, after a year in the oven, the Big One is upon us. From Thursday, March 13 through Saturday March 16, the Miller Zell Championships will be in Atlanta. This is going to be terrific, it's in your backyard, and it's free!

We have about 230 players from across the U.S., Canada, and Bermuda. Our title sponsor, Miller Zell, is really going to dress the venue up and we have great support from Invesco, The Coca-Cola Company and Raymond James as well.

World #4, #12, #38, #43:

We have top players from the U.S. and around the world entered in these draws. The S.L. Green U.S. Championships, which is the centennial playing of this event, will have Julian Illingworth going for his fourth consecutive title, which hasn't happened since Vic Niederhoffer in the 70s.



Julian is from Portland, Oregon and at 38 has the highest world ranking ever for a U.S. born player. At the age of 23, he is the youngest player ever to win three U.S. national titles, and the only player to win two titles while in college. He comes to Atlanta fresh from a terrific win last month in the the 2008 Davenport Professional Squash Championship, where, as an unseeded player, he "delivered a stunning display of creative, intelligent squash that deservedly brought him a shocking four-game victory over Egypt's Hisham Ashour, ranked 17 places above him. Illingworth, in the view of some observers, played the match of his life..." As a result, Julian has reached a PSA high ranking of 38.

In the National Open draw, we are very fortunate to have John White returning to



Atlanta. John put on a great exhibition last fall with Amr Shabana at Andre's Atlanta Masters. He was world #1 in 2004 and is currently ranked world #12. He is known as one of the hardest hitters of the ball in the sport of squash. Quite frequently, he has achieved the speeds of over 165 miles per hour (266 km/h). One of his shots was clocked at 172 miles per hour, which remains a world record.

White finished runner-up at both the World Open and the British Open in 2002. He won the PSA Masters title in 2003, beating Thierry Lincou. He also won the



SQUASH
MAGAZINE





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British National Championships in 2004, beating Lee Beachill. John has represented Scotland in international play but lives these days outside Philadelphia. He has recently accepted a position as coach of the Franklin and Marshall squash team.

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Yasser El Halaby also has several ties to Atlanta. Directly, because he is the past winner of Andre's Atlanta Open pro draw. Indirectly because he was a Princeton teammate of Michael Gilman. Yasser is currently ranked world #43. When he came to Princeton, he was the number one player in the world for his age since the age of 12. He won the NCAA individual title in his sport for four straight years — something no one had ever done before.

Said his Princeton coach Bob Callahan, El Halaby's touch was unparalleled when it came to making shots. In particular, his drop shot is one of the best in the world," Callahan said.

Natalie Grainger reached the World No. 1 ranking in June 2003 and is currently ranked



#4. She was runner-up at the World Open in 2002, and at the British Open in 2004. She has represented South Africa, England and her adopted home country, the U.S. in international play. In mid February, she won the \$27,300 WISPA National City Burning River Cleveland Classic. Natalie has been the South African Junior National Champion in every age group, South African Senior National Champion '97, US National Champion '07, Qatar Classic Champion '03, a British and World Open Finalist. She has won a individual Bronze medal at 2004 Pan Am games, and a team Gold medal at the 2003 Pan Am Games. Natalie will be seeking her second national title this weekend.





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GREAT PLAYERS NEED A GREAT VENUE:

Midtown Athletic Club at Windy Hill is the host club, and will be thoroughly dressed up for the event by title sponsor Miller Zell. How does this look?

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For those who want to stop by, here's the agenda:

Thursday: play 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., primarily at Midtown.
Friday: play 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Evening event at the Georgia Aquarium.
Saturday: play 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Evening event at the Piedmont Driving Club.
Sunday: play 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Finals!

WANT TO JOIN THE FUN?

Guest packages that include dinner Thursday at Midtown, the Georgia Aquarium, and the Driving Club are available for \$150. Contact Tom Rumpler at Midtown if you want to know more.

Hope this continues to be of interest.

Bob

