

Archives & Oral History Department
Singapore

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6 MAY 1983

SPEECH BY TAN ENG LIANG, CHAIRMAN, SINGAPORE SPORTS COUNCIL AT THE
CHECKE PRESENTATION OF THE SSC/F & N BADMINTON TRAINING SCHEME AT THE
NATIONAL STADIUM CONFERENCE ROOM ON FRIDAY, 6 MAY 1983 AT 6.00 PM

Fraser & Neave has been the staunch supporter of sports for many years. Since its inception in 1972, the F & N Badminton Training Scheme has produced 59 national players. Of these, 39 are men and the rest women.

Our records show that in the past six years, all the men's and women's national champions, with the exception of one, have been ex-trainees of the scheme. This outstanding record is hard to surpass. The value of the scheme and its place in the overall development of badminton cannot be ignored even though none of the players has become a world beater. However, let us take pride in the attainment of Wong Shoon Keat, a product of the scheme, who received a world ranking last year. Also let us be proud of the fact that the men's and women's players selected for the SEA Games are all from the scheme.

The F & N Badminton Scheme is the longest running among schemes administered by the Sports Council. Many of you know this. However, there is one fact that is little known and that is, nearly all the original coaches who started with the scheme are still with us today. This is most commendable. It shows their true concern for the improvement of young players and their intense love of the game. Much of the success of the scheme so far can be attributed to their work. However, allow me to suggest that the presence of a coach from

China, Mr Fu Xun Hua, in Singapore should be fully utilised by our coaches to enrich their expertise. I hope some arrangements are being made to benefit from Mr Fu's presence, coaching style and ideas.

I wish to thank all coaches who have served the scheme, the members of the Advisory Committee and Sunrise & Co for providing the equipment to the value of \$15,000. It is a very good gesture on their part. Finally I thank Fraser & Neave for once again supporting the scheme for 1983 with a \$35,000 donation.