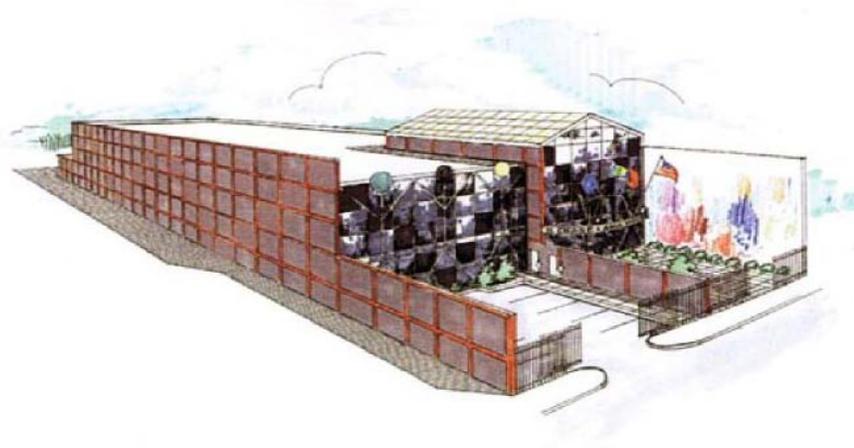


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## Philadelphia Gets Urban Squash Home

By Trevor McGuinness, August 26, 2006  
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### **Artist rendition of the new SquashSmarts/PAL facility in Philadelphia.**

SquashSmarts, based in Philadelphia, is the latest urban squash program to unveil plans for a dedicated squash facility which will be located at 10th & Luzerne Streets in the Hunting Park section of Philadelphia.

Unlike its sister facilities in Boston and New York, the SquashSmarts program will share the facility with the Policeman Athletic League [PAL]. SquashSmarts Executive Director Steve Gregg reports that the first floor of the state-of-the-art facility will include a full court gymnasium, computer labs, fitness/training center and PAL offices. The second floor will be dedicated to the SquashSmarts program, and will feature eight glass backed courts, two classrooms, student lounges, locker room facilities and offices.

The facility, which will be known as the H. Chase and Ana Marie Lenfest Community Center, is named after the long time SquashSmarts Board member Chase Lenfest [see profile below] who has been a steadfast supporter of SquashSmarts since its inception.

Ground breaking ceremonies were enjoyed by members of both SquashSmarts and PAL in August, and the grand opening is scheduled for the summer 2007. Gregg expects that the new facility will accommodate the growing high school program, allow expansion of the summer "Embrace Camps" [that combine community service activities with squash competition], serve as the base for junior tournaments [including the SquashSmarts Silver Junior tournament], and will allow extension of the already successful program into other neighborhoods in the city. A all girls parochial high school [Little Flower], located across the street, is eager to introduce the game to its students, and nearby middle schools are ready to take advantage of SquashSmart's recognized academic and community service programs.

SquashSmarts is currently based at Drexel University which will continue as a base of operations after the Lenfest facility opens. Gregg's praise of the Drexel community is effusive - the school, its students and staff remain the most passionate supporters of

SquashSmarts. Drexel recently formed squash as a club sport and the college players regularly spar with the SquashSmarts players as they position themselves as an "emerging" team in the collegiate ranks. Drexel professors sit on the Board of Directors the every community service project involves a partnership between Drexel and SquashSmarts. According to Gregg, Drexel does not merely pay lip service to partnering with the west Philly urban community; rather, it sets an example of "good neighboring".

#### Benefactor Profile - H. Chase Lenfest

Chase Lenfest, a life-long Philadelphian, began playing squash as a junior and was an early protégé of Dave Talbott who mentored and coached Chase at Yale University. Lenfest was a member of the Yale Squash Class of '86, along with well-known chef and restaurateur Ming Tsai. Talbott said, "Chase is a great natural athlete, and had a wonderful spirit and enthusiasm for the game. It comes as no surprise that he has retained his love for the game and is now giving back"

Chase is the Chairman/CEO of Lenfest Enterprises, LLC, the holding company for a variety of enterprises that provide media, advertising and investment services. He has served on the Boards of several non-profits, including SquashSmarts and PAL. He and his wife, Ana Marie, who reside in the Philly suburbs with their children, are the founders of the H. Chase and Ana Marie Lenfest Foundation that provides support for programs intended to make a positive impact on the lives of children in the Philadelphia community.

SquashSmarts has not only benefited from Chase's leadership on its Board and his philanthropic contributions, but he is a constant volunteer who trains with the kids on Saturdays, joins the children at Sixers and Phillies games, cheers them on at Outward Bound programs, and even spends time with the players at the shore on hot summer days. Chase was the 2005 PAL honoree and the following year received the 2006 SquashSmarts Volunteer of the Year Award.

Every SquashSmarts student knows Chase, and more importantly, Chase knows them. Each student has a stated goal to someday beat Chase in a full match [although Chase remains an impressive 5.0 player who regularly competes in the PSRA A+ singles league]. And Chase looks forward to the day that one of his kids beats him fair and square as he has no plans to ease up and let them win There is no doubt that Chase has set the highest standards of sportsmanship, charitable excellence and community kinship.



**Groundbreaking for the new Philadelphia facility (left to right: Cassandra Rodriguez, Sakora Miller, Steve Gregg, Chase Lenfest, Lemin Conteh, and Tony Meyers). photo © 2006**