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THE GOOD LIFE **Courting season** Kyra Hoggan Calgary Sun

May 7, 2005

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Backswing

Sports enthusiasts everywhere are learning about a new product called Duragridd Interlocking tiles (or safety tiles) that bring the best in playing surfaces to your backyard for use throughout the year.

Brent Marinos, owner of Sport Court, says interlocking tiles offer patented lateral forgiveness to absorb shock — so much so that Volleyball Canada uses these tiles for 12 of its own courts.



“The University of Alberta and the University of Calgary put this tile system over the best hardwood floors money can buy, as the wood offers only vertical forgiveness, while the tiles have been independently proven, by the Orthopedic Biomechanics Institute, to reduce the strain on backs, joints and legs while reducing the incidence of injury during play,” he says.

Even sports icon Michael Jordan uses these floors for his Flight of Dreams tour.

“The benefit is more than just esthetic — it’s safety and comfort as well.”

Even sports icon Michael Jordan uses these floors for his Flight of Dreams tour.

“Sport Court tiles can be applied to a huge range of backyard sizes, from a small half-court up to a full game-court size, with an average size of 30 feet by 60 feet,” he says. “There are 15 or 20 different games you can play on it — basketball, shortcourt tennis, badminton, roller hockey, volleyball.”

He says customers like getting to see their kids on the court instead of in front of the TV, and there’s no lawn to mow or beds to water.

“They’re kind of like Lego — a quick, easy, do-it-yourself project with no glue or nails, so you can leave your surface in place permanently or you can take it up again for a portable play space to put down at the summer cottage or at a friend’s place,” he says.

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Although a slip-free surface during the summer, when it gets cold enough, the tiles can also be flooded for a handy backyard skating rink.

Also available are basketball systems with adjustable acrylic backboards with flex rims, not to mention lighting systems, rebounder nets for solo play and hockey nets for wintertime.

With a life expectancy of at least 35 years, these tiles are the ideal solution for sports fans who want to make the best of their backyards.

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