

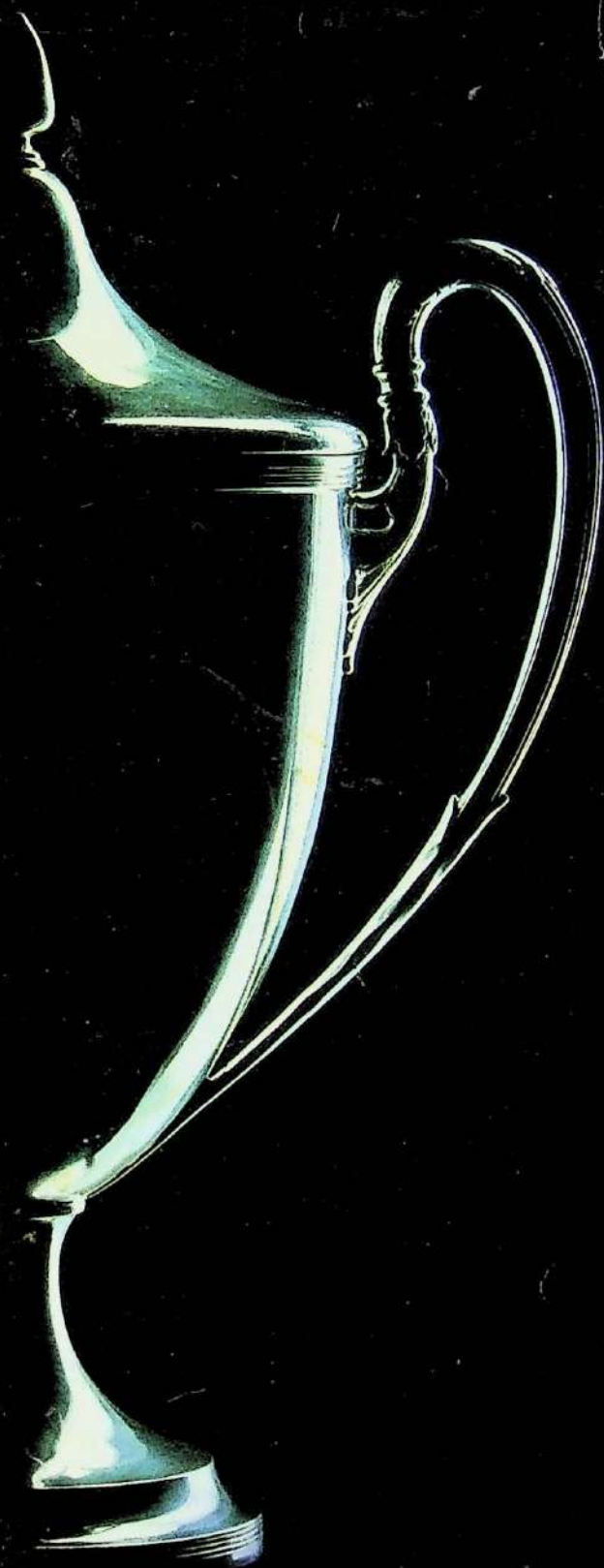
RACQUET

THE JOURNAL OF RACQUET SPORTS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1979

\$1.50

HEROES:
Racquet Athlete
of the Year Award



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924



The character of any racquet sport can be changed dramatically
by altering an element in the game—
court surface, rules or ball. The game may
be made faster or slower; emphasis can be placed on power or control.
As the racquet sports drive toward maturity, we've
witnessed this interesting phenomenon in tennis, racquetball and squash.
The problems in finding a universally acceptable
surface in tennis are well documented.
In racquetball the ball has metamorphosed from a slow one
which placed a premium on control and placement
to a fast one which rewards raw power.
Today the top players can win points from virtually
any spot on the court with a single swing.
It is no longer necessary to maneuver an opponent out of position
to execute a winning stroke.
A ten shot rally is rare—short points are the norm.
This is often not very interesting to spectators
and certainly does not encourage increased television coverage.
Squash racquets in an attempt to make the game easier to play
turned from a hard, fast ball to a softer,
slow ball which was easier to control.
Unfortunately this combination of small court and slow ball means
the best players who cover court so well,
are unable to win points without hitting a dead nick.
Again, rallies that are too long are uninteresting to spectators
and do not lend themselves to media coverage.
The result of these mutations underscores the need
for a ball which is a compromise of both power and control.
It also poses a major question:
should the game be for the club player, tournament professional or spectator?

The Editors.

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RACQUET

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1979

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cover by Clifton Watts of The Hyder Cup

DEWAR'S PROFILES

(Pronounced Do-ers "White Label")



LAURA STAMM

HOME: New York, New York

AGE: 33

PROFESSION: Professional ice hockey skating coach

HOBBIES: Tennis, camping, ballet.

MOST MEMORABLE BOOK: "Plain Speaking" by Merle Miller

LATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT: Authored book "Power Skating the Hockey Way."

QUOTE: "The athletes that I coach are concerned only with my improving their performance. To me this implies that the woman's role in sports is finally at the point where it's ability, and no longer sex, that counts."

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RACQUET

G.J. Jabara
H.K. Pickens
Publishers & Editors

Andrea DaRif
Art Director

A. Friedberg
Managing Editor

Robert Cramer Jr.
Karen Rockow
Associate Editors

Wendy Murphy
Editorial Assistant

Charlie Brumfield
Herb FitzGibbon
Quentin Hyder, M.D.
Rosine Lemon
Doug Russell
Richard Szathmary
Tom Wintrich
Margaret Zellers
Contributing Editors

Travel Marketing
80 Mason Street
Greenwich, Ct. 06830

The Klaner Company
11704 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, Ca. 90025
Sales Offices

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Calendar of Events

BADMINTON

January 13-14	Westchester-Fairfield Open	Greenwich, CN.
January 18-21	Junior Invitational	Manhattan Beach, CA.

PLATFORM TENNIS

January 24-25	Fox Meadow Women's Invitational	Scarsdale, N.Y.
January 31	Boston Invitational	Boston, MA.
February 3-4	New Canaan Invitational	New Canaan, CN.
February 21-22	Greenwich Women's Invitational	Greenwich, CN.
February 24-25	Greenwich Invitational	Greenwich, CN.

RACQUETBALL

January 12-14	A.M.F.-Voit/Perrier Classic	Las Vegas, NV.
January 16-20	Kun Nan/Leach Tournament of Champs	Miami, FL.
January 25-27	Long Island Open	Long Island, N.Y.
February 9-11	New Hampshire Open	Nashua, N.H.
February 14-18	Coors Classic	Denver, CO.
February 16-18	Connecticut Open	New Britain, CN.

SQUASH

January 13-14	North American Open Singles	New York, N.Y.
January 20-21	Atlantic Coast Singles	Atlantic City, N.J.
January 26-28	Bancroft Women's Open	Philadelphia, PA.
January 27-28	Cowles Memorial Singles	New York, N.Y.
February 3-4	Apawamis Club Singles	Rye, N.Y.
February 8-11	U.S. National Women's Singles	New York, N.Y.
February 16-19	United States National Singles	Portland, OR.
February 24-25	Canadian National Singles	Vancouver, B.C.

TABLE TENNIS

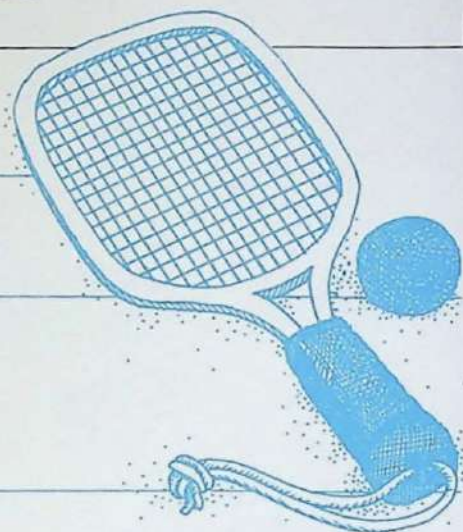
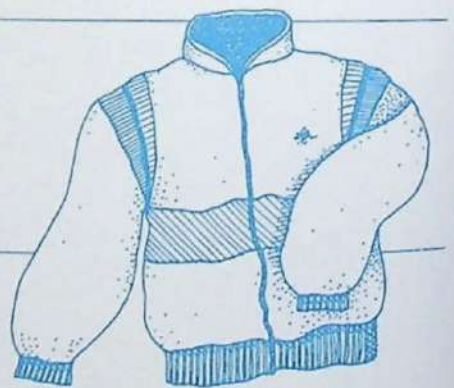
January 13	Westfield Open	Westfield, N.J.
January 13	Buckeye Open	Columbus, OH.
January 20	Atlanta Winter Open	Atlanta, GA.
February 17	Dayton Winter Open	Dayton, OH.
February 17	Bethlehem Open	Bethlehem, PA.

TENNIS

January 22-28	U.S. Pro Indoor Championships	Philadelphia, PA.
January 29	Avon Women's Championships	Chicago, IL.
February 12-18	American Airlines Championships	Palm Springs, CA.
February 12-18	Avon Women's Championships	Inglewood, CA.
February 26	U.S. National Indoor Championships	Memphis, TN.
February 26	Avon Women's Championships	Dallas, TX.

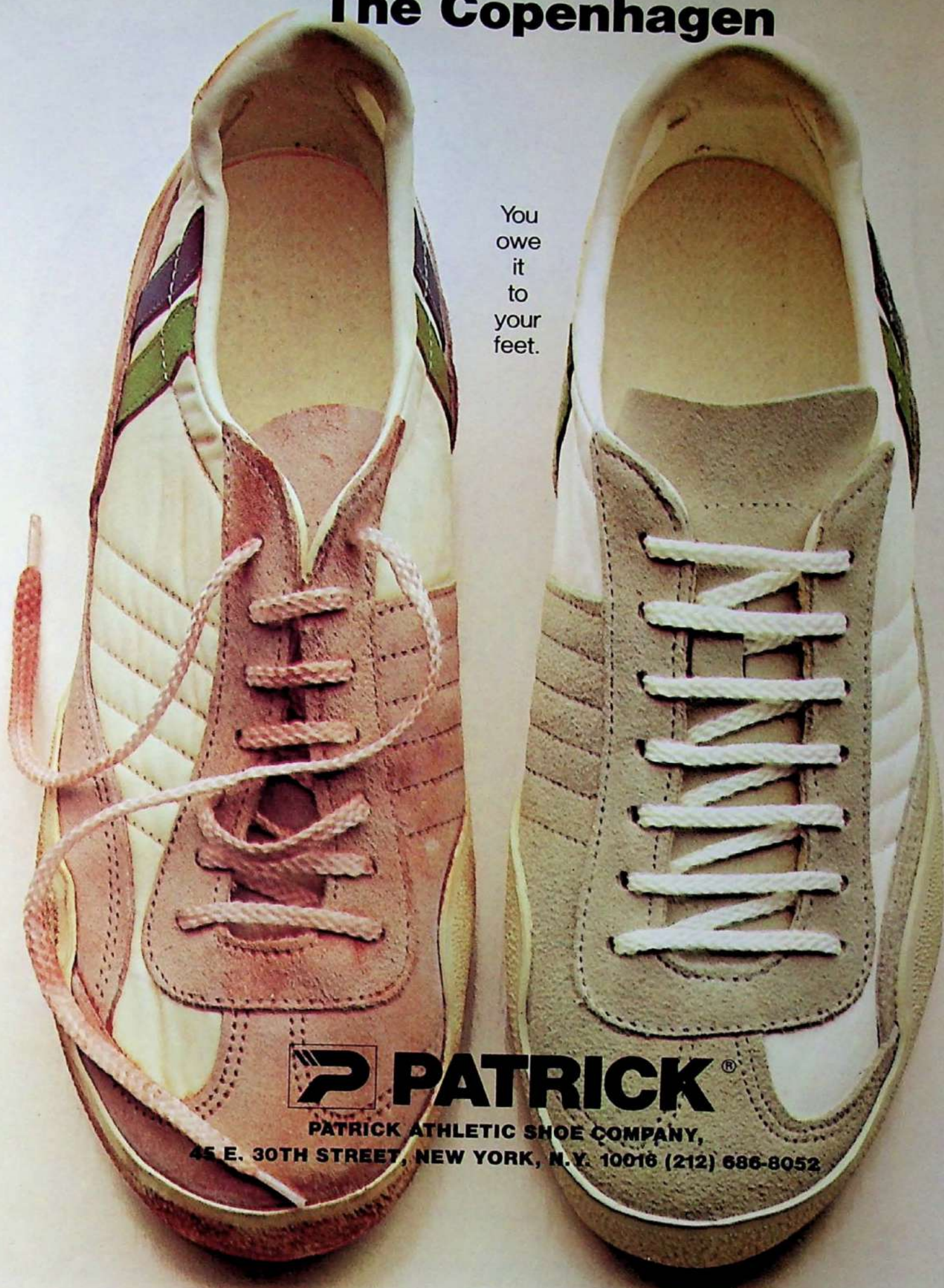
OTHER RACQUETS

January 13	U.S. Open Court Tennis Championships	New York, N.Y.
January 20	U.S. Amateur Racquets Championships	Boston, MA.
January 27	Canadian Racquets Championships	Montreal, Canada
February 10	World Championship Racquets Series	New York, N.Y.
February 17	World Championship Racquets Series	London, England
February 24	U.S. Open Court Tennis Doubles	Philadelphia, PA.



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HEROES

ONE WILL BE RACQUET ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

by Robert Cramer, Jr.

When I was growing up my father would tell me stories about his days as a college football player—his games, the players—and the athletes who had inspired him as a boy. He embellished his stories with each telling until these men and their exploits assumed mythic proportions in my mind. They were not ordinary men, I felt certain of that. With his tales, he was attempting to pass on his love of sports and, I think, trying to give me a sense of the aspirations he had in his youth.

Heroes is a word that has fallen out of favor these days. I do not think we lack heroes, but there does seem to be a reluctance to create them. Or perhaps we are just confused by the jungle of talk show conversationalists and personalities who masquerade as heroes in this age of celebrity. If we are wary of making heroes, our reluctance is understandable. Not only is it difficult to discern between the real thing and the hype, but the very manner by which we identify with a hero seems to have been perverted. In the extreme, we have witnessed admiration turn to cult worship, charisma to megalomania.

Some feel that big money has fundamentally corrupted sports by changing them from something admirable to mere trades, professions. But money has been part of sports for years. Red Grange, football's 'Gallop' Ghost, trotted away with \$1,000,000 in his first three years of college and that was in 1925. His accomplishments are certainly not diminished by the fact that he made a passel of money along the way. The influx of money, on the other hand, has

promoted the growth of sports in general and has allowed both men and women to make a living as athletes. It has not changed the character of competition.

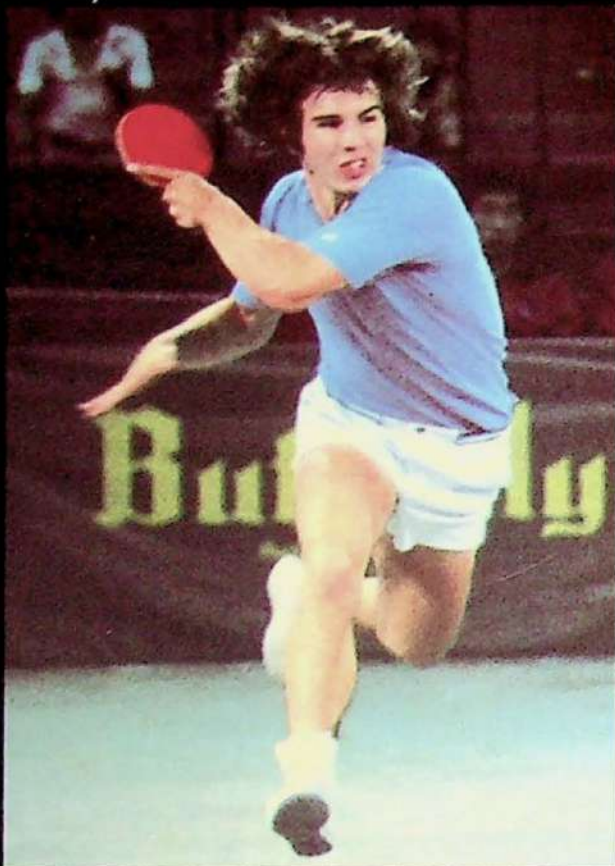
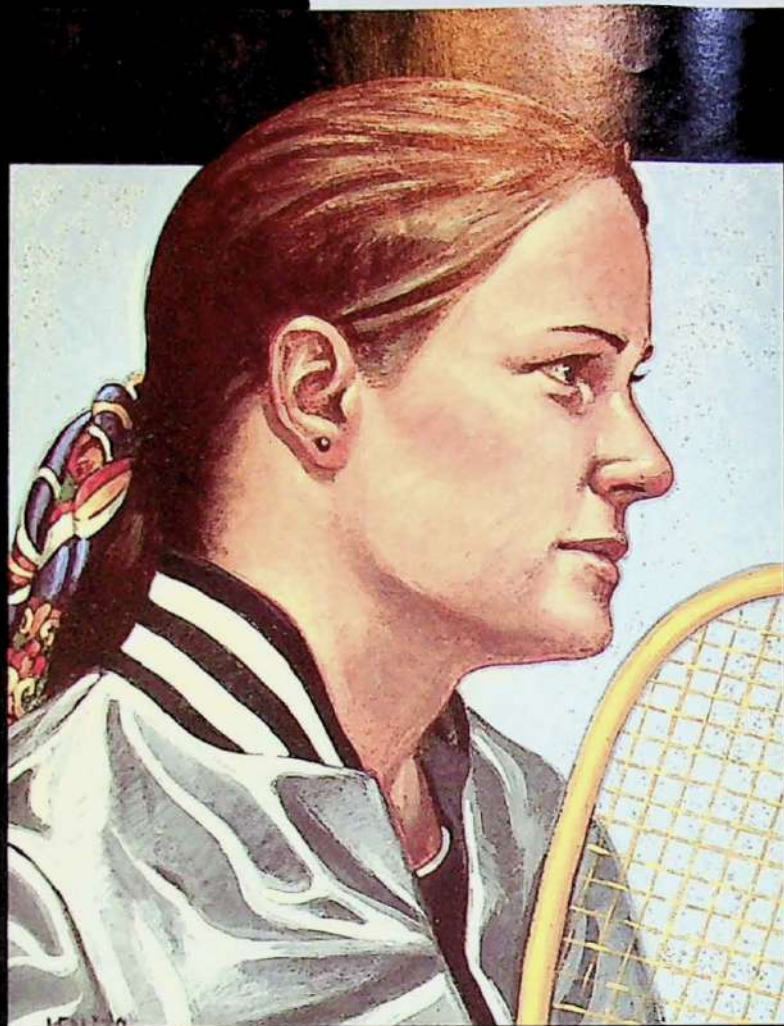
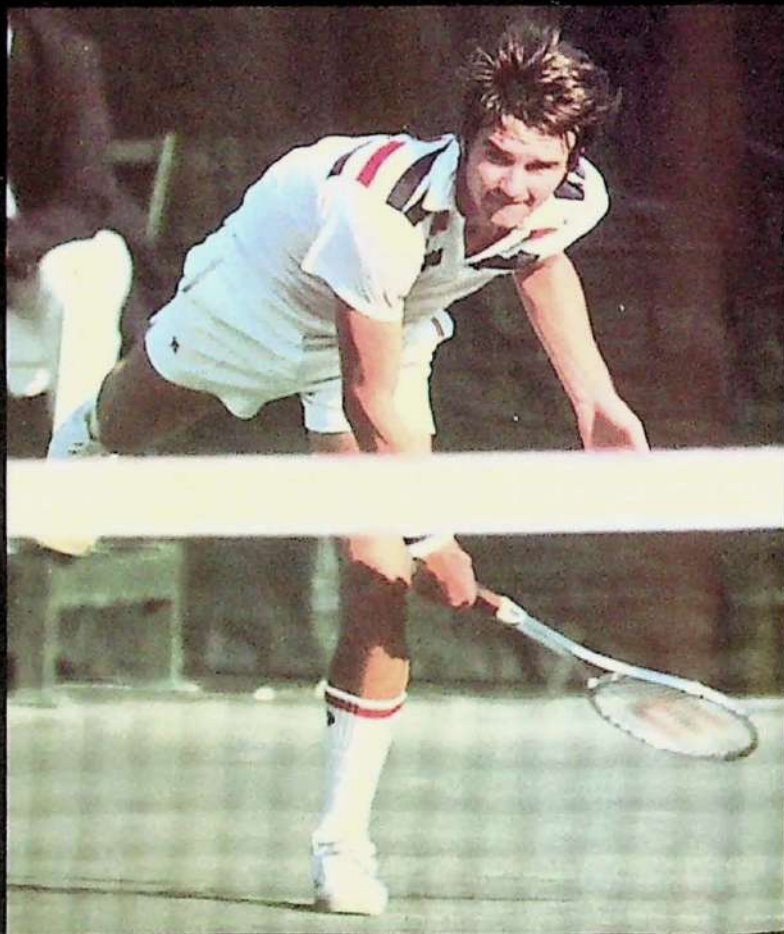
All top athletes share common bonds: excellence in their sport and persistency, a tenacity of purpose. This, persistency, is the essential trait of genuine heroism wrote Emerson. One would almost be content to stop here with a definition of the heroic, but all good and persistent athletes are not considered heroes. At least they are not recognized as heroes.

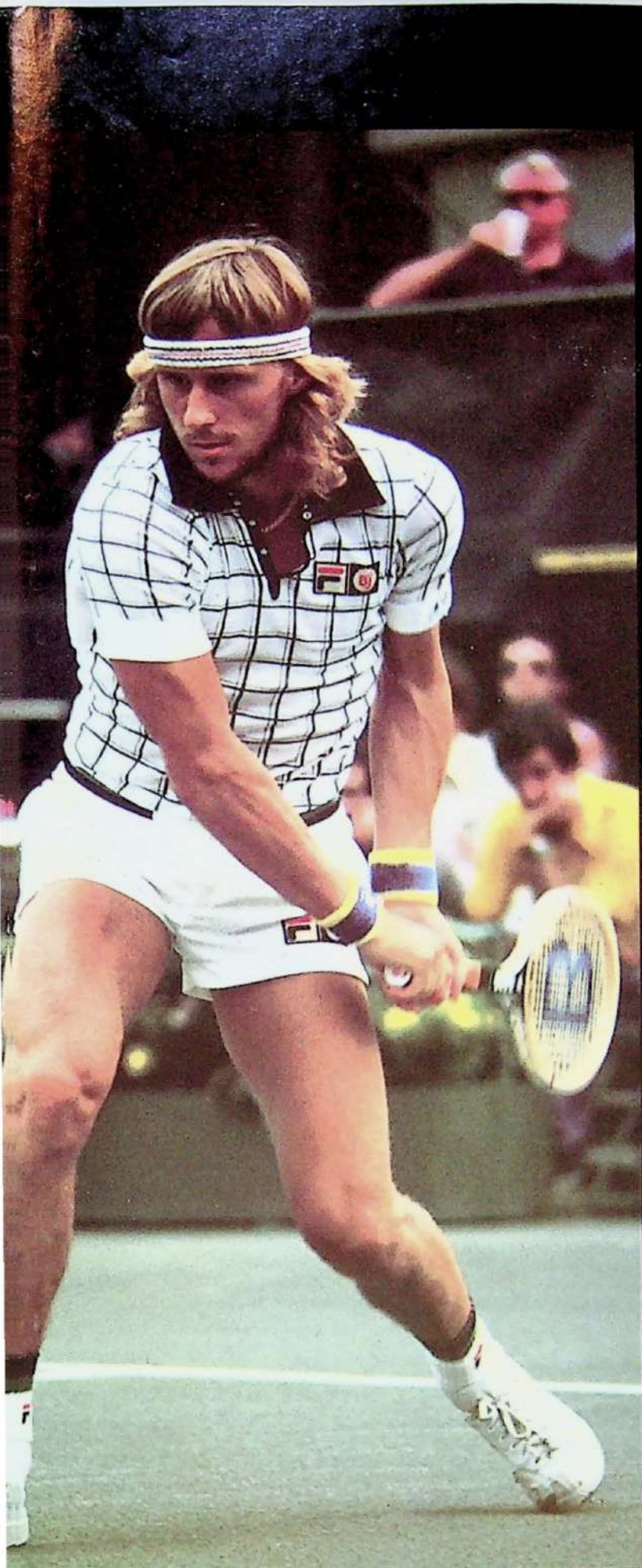
Emerson said the weight of a man is not found solely in his accomplishments. Like an iceberg, the large part of his power is submerged. "This is that which we call character," he wrote. "A reserved force which acts directly by presence and without means." This question of character is puzzling. If admiration and accomplishments do not make a hero, what does?

A hero is not someone we just admire. A hero is one we idealize. "Heroes have definite attributes," writes Henry Farlie in *Harpers*. "But it is we who give significance to them. The process is two-way. We choose the hero. He is fit to be chosen. To talk of heroes is therefore to talk of ourselves, of our own aspirations . . . of what we expect of ourselves and our times."

Take Billie Jean King, for example. Many consider her something of a hero (more properly a heroine), despite the presence of other equally good players. The reason for this, I believe, is that she crystallizes the spirit of our age. Not only is she a good tennis player, but she is a woman and one who has worked hard toward her goal of achieving a recognition that

Robert Cramer, Jr., is an associate editor of *Racquet*. Raised in the Virgin Islands, he is a recent graduate of Williams College. He currently resides in New York City.



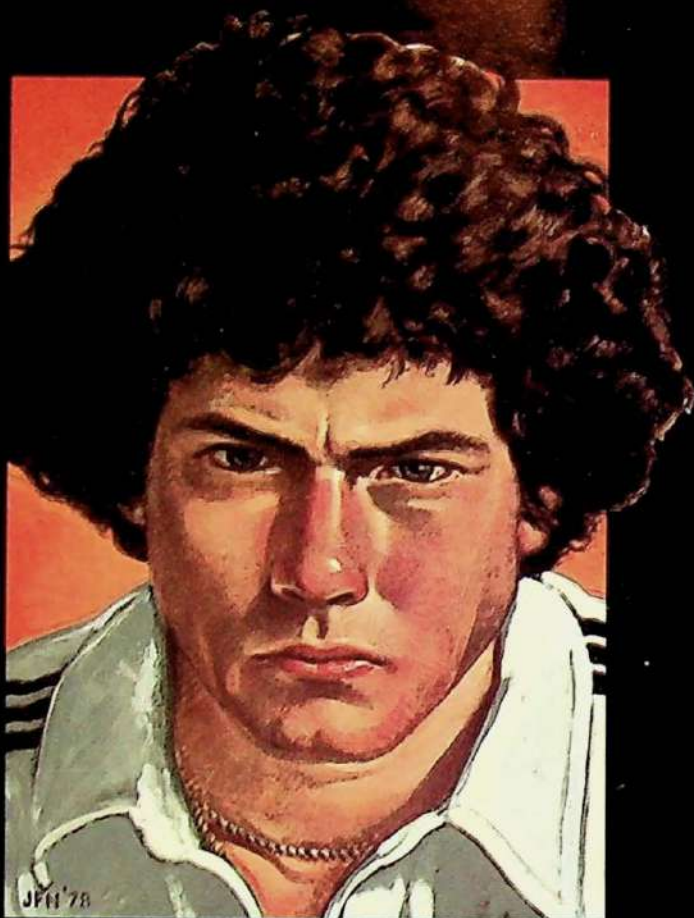


On this page:

Clockwise, U.S. Table Tennis Champion, Danny Seemiller; U.S. Racquetball Champion, Shannon Wright; Wimbledon Champion, Bjorn Borg; U.S. Open Titlist, Jimmy Connors; and North American Squash Champion, Heather McKay.

Following page:

From the top left, U.S. Open Tennis Queen, Chris Evert; U.S. Racquetball Champion, Marty Hogan; and North American Squash Champion, Sharif Khan.



PRO STOP

SHORT TAKES FROM THE RACQUETBALL TOUR

by A. Friedberg

The scene at most pro stops is familiar. The players—Hogan, Brumfield, Hilecher, Wagner, Bledsoe, Wright, Harding and Steding are very much in evidence. They are the lead actors in this major production. The supporting cast is much the same too, many local players competing with hopes of making the Big Time.

Club officials, anxious to show off their spanking new facility and impress the visiting dignitaries, are all smiles. Joe Ardito, business manager and benevolent godfather is a familiar face on the tour. Says Ardito, "The clubs make money out of these tournaments. They get all the revenue from entry fees, seat sales and advertising in the program. If they run a good amateur tournament it's possible they can take in \$10,000 in entry fees.

Chief official and NRC director Chuck Leve keeps the players on the court with a minimum of rancor. Photographer Art Shay, a veteran of hundreds of tournaments is busy, cameras blazing. Products of the tour sponsors are very much in evidence creating a phantasmagoria of racquets, balls and related equipment.



Charlie Brumfield has been out with infectious hepatitis. It hasn't been quite the same without "The Beard." He likes to call himself "The People's Champion" and maybe he is. At any rate his usual candor and good humour are notable by their absence. His confrontations with Hogan are also missed. The two always put on a good show and draw the largest galleries.



Vincent Immordino owns the Olympic Court Club in New York—one of the recent stops on the tour. "We only opened here four and a half months ago but Charlie Drake and some players visited and chose this club instead of Yogi Berra's in New Jersey. I put 100% into this club. Everything is first class including the rug that's the same one in the Plaza Hotel. We have 1,200 members but this is a very private club. We're in an area called the "Miracle Mile" of Long Island where houses cost \$150,000 to \$250,000. The members want to keep it private and limited. It costs \$200 to join and \$10 an hour for prime time. This tournament is good for the club, good recognition. The members keep the place clean though these people make a mess.

"I was in Chicago about four years ago and a group of us found this place. I'm a tennis player myself but I played racquetball and I loved it. I bought four racquets but no balls. When I got back I found I couldn't get balls here. So we used string racquets and a handball. We nearly killed ourselves.

"Two years ago the television people were saying the game couldn't be televised and now they're saying yes . . . but."

A T-shirt in the crowd: "2nd Annual Peggy Steding Racquetball Tournament, Odessa, Texas."

Peggy Steding, the 42 year old marvel of the women's tour, two time national champion, second in all-time career earnings and currently ranked fourth among the women is unhappy about the way prize money is distributed. "The women don't get even half as much as the men," she says in her Texas twang. "The only way to get better competition among the women is to offer more money and you're naturally going to get better athletes into the game. It's got to be a super sport for women. Even based on a consumer deal the prize money should at least be split 60-40 because 40% of the players are women." In Port Washington the men's winner got \$4,500 and the winning woman got \$1,300.

Steding goes on. "This year Drake (Charlie Drake of Leach) has been going out and getting the sponsors and Drake has promoted racquetball a lot but he couldn't care less for the women. He just wants to promote the men. He couldn't care less if all the women went out and jumped in the river and as long as it's done like that we're never going to forge ahead. And it's not that the women can't stand on their own. When you're at the tournaments and talk to people they like to watch the women. The only way, it seems, is to have a separate tour for women."



PEGGY
STEDING



A PRECOCIOUS
JUNIOR

There's still a lot of talk about Jim Kaplan's recent editorial in *Sports Illustrated* about the state of racquetball. Some of his comments—"The game is usually as exciting as croquet at a nursing home for the spectator . . . To speed up play and add drama and intensity to a match a point should be awarded after each rally. . . To eliminate the overwhelming advantage of the server there should be one serve instead of two and to lengthen the points a slower ball is needed." Kaplan also notes that court behavior of some of the pros would embarrass Ilie Nastase.

The West Coast editor of *National Racquetball*, Nick Longhurst says, "Two years ago the television people were saying the game couldn't be televised and now they're saying yes, but. It's still hard to see the ball and more light is needed for videotape. We'll have to use the blue ball and there are other problems but the potential sponsors are there."

A celebrity type format called "Star Racquetball" is actually ready for viewing and if picked up by the networks . . .



ART SHAY

Some of the men's matches on the exhibition court take up to two hours because of time-outs, arguments, equipment changes and general stalling. One of the pros says, "I realize there are a lot of people that are into a big psyche thing but I've been playing sports all my life and it doesn't matter what I'm playing, if I can't beat them with my ability I can't beat them. If I've got to talk them out of it or cheat them out of it I don't want it. I want to win but I want to look at myself in the mirror the next day. Most players don't cheat but those that do will even cheat you in practice."

"Brumfield's usual confrontation with Hogan was missed—the two always put on a good show and draw the largest crowds."



The men are attempting to start a player's association and Jerry Hilecher is the ramrod. A ballot has been mailed to 25 pros in the first move to form a board of directors. "We'll do better after we have a board," Hilecher says. "Before we really didn't have the power to do anything. I think most of the players will go along, after all the other pro sports have strong player's groups. We want to be the main voice for racquetball. The sponsors have their say but they don't have a tournament without the players. For example, this is nice here but if we were organized we could demand shuttle service to the hotel and nicer accommodations and hospitality with sandwiches and drinks, and we'd get it."

"But right now the players are frightened and they have no power. We could be getting shoe sponsors and clothing sponsors so the players without contracts can pick up extra money. Now the big roadblock is the Leach players and a few of them are interested but are afraid of their sponsor. If they don't go along it will slow us down but won't stop us. As racquetball grows there is going to be a lot to gain with television and all. The players are missing the boat right now."



Shannon Wright, the reigning national women's champion, travels with her boy friend Jim Lewis. Lewis speaks for them both quite often. "We have moved to Las Vegas because we feel that it will become the racquetball capital. Shannon teaches the stars. Just recently she taught Jimmie Walker. We've seen her mature over the last year. She had some rough edges but now she dominates the sport. We're disappointed that the money isn't equal. Many people feel like I do that women's professional racquetball is more attractive than men's because the common player can associate with the women better. The ball is in play more and they don't hit the ball as hard."



"When there was money at stake a few players used deception and tried to make it hard on the officials . . ."

The pros while away the time between matches checking the progress on other courts, talking with local fans and, in general, displaying pleasant off-court personalities that don't remotely resemble their on-court strutting and bravado.

A crowd surrounded the viewing area for a match between Davey Bledsoe and Steve Serot. A spectator, unable to see the action, asked Marty Hogan, current national champion, who was playing. Hogan glanced down at the court, turned to the questioner and said, "Nobody, absolutely nobody." Then he smiled and moved off in the direction of the snack bar.

Between matches some of the players amuse themselves by playing backgammon but at least one group is involved in what appears to be a high stakes poker game. Meanwhile, Steve Keeley sits by himself reading a copy of *How to Publish Your Own Book*.



LOCKER ROOM

The National Director of the National Racquetball Club is Chuck Leve. Among his responsibilities he is in charge of tournament organization, and assignment of the officials for the professional matches at each tour stop. Officiating in any sport is a difficult proposition at best but Leve says, "The problems in racquetball come not so much from the matches themselves but the construction of the courts. In most clubs no consideration has been given to the placement of the referees and no provision made for their communication with the players. This is an especially difficult situation on two and three wall glass courts. Usually the referee is either too high or too low, at the wrong angle and has no place to sit down. All this serves to break the referees concentration. But despite the problems and the speed of the game most matches are fairly uneventful and I prefer it that way.

"Actually things have gone in a cycle. In the pre-pro days the players were helpful to the refs. When there was money at stake a few players used deception and tried to make it hard on the officials. Now everyone is cleaning up their act and there is a new professionalism in the game. Most things that happen on the court are within reason and can be handled though the referee can assess a technical foul at any time and take a point away from the offending player. But mostly, since everyone knows everyone else and the players practice together, stay at the same hotel and relax together, relations all around are very good."

Jennifer Harding, a fourth year pro ranked number two among the women, owns a racquetball club in Portland, Oregon and teaches racquetball because, "There's not enough money in the tour to make a steady living if you're a woman. There aren't enough tournaments and the money division isn't equitable. Talk of a women's tour is just talk at this point though."



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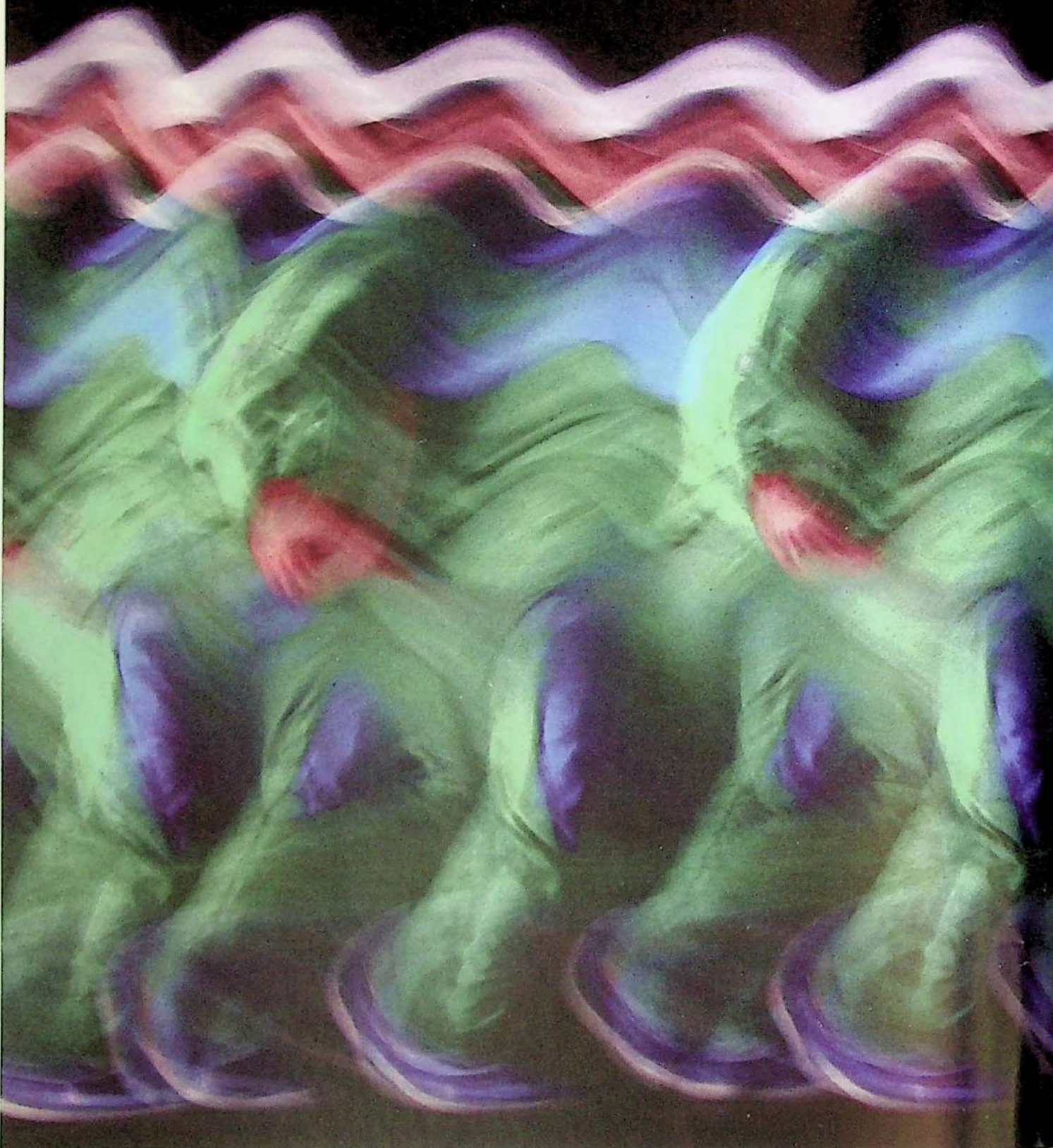
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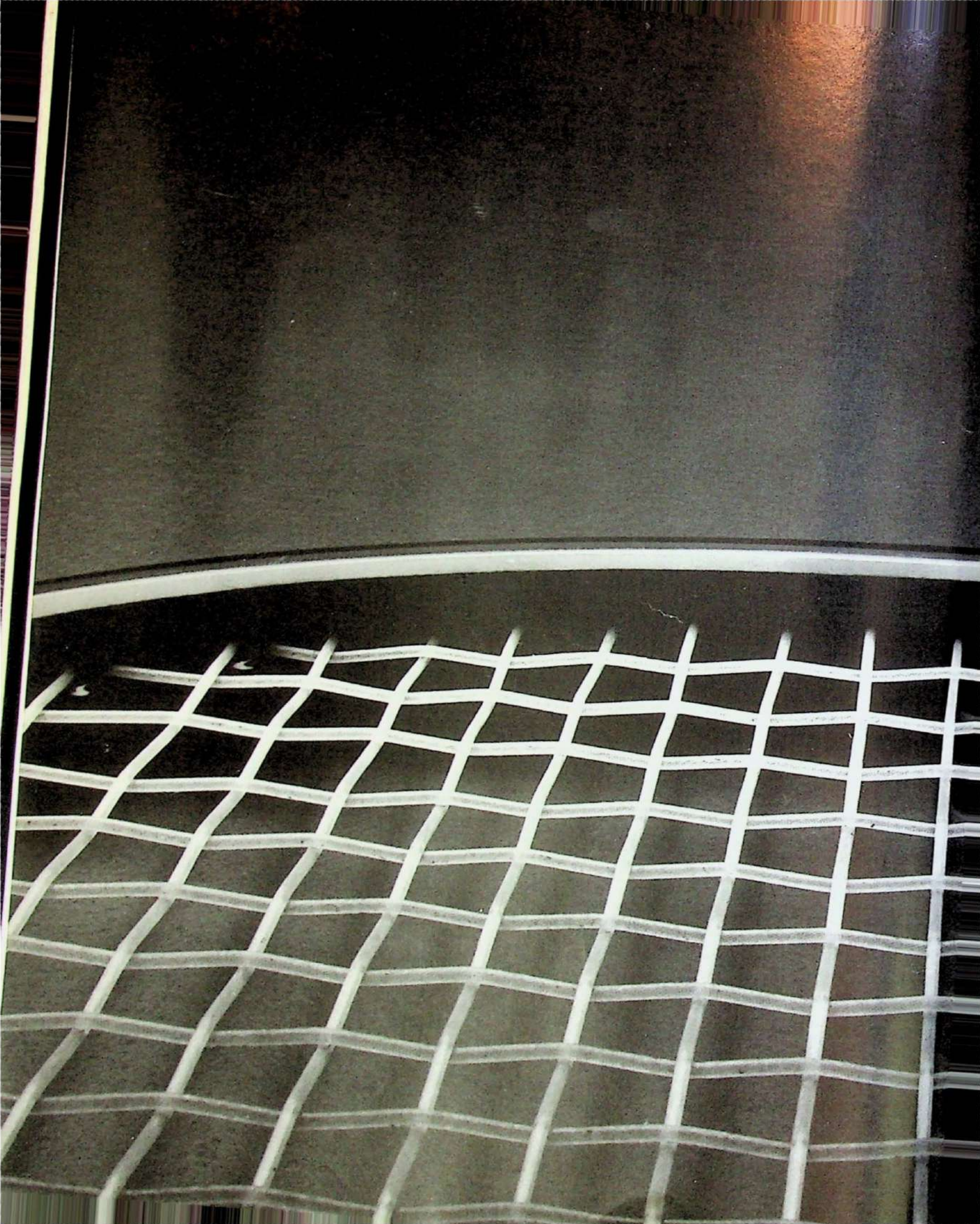
WARMING UP

Racquet players won't be able to make excuses about bad weather training any longer. Frank Shorter's warm-up suit (\$80) is made of a new fabric called Gore-tex. It's waterproof, warm and it breathes, allowing perspiration to expire.



Phillip Leonian © 1979

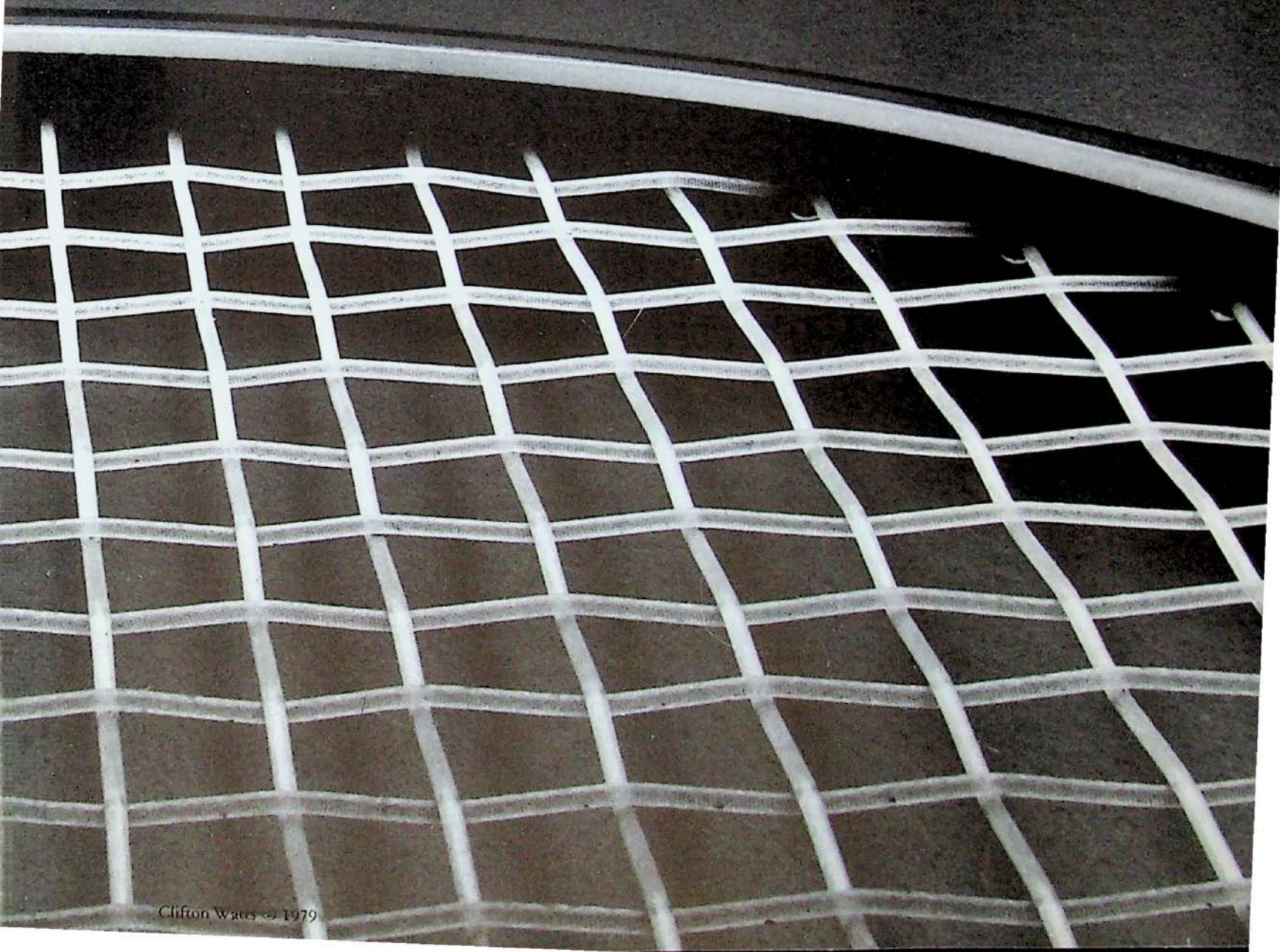




ALL STRUNG OUT

by Steven Crandall & Steve Metcalfe

For all the talk about racquet qualities—balance, stiffness weight—a racquet is not going to give the power, the control or the right feel unless it is strung according to your needs and level of play. Whether you are a tennis player, a squash player or a racquetball player, a knowledge of what kind of string to buy is going to help you as a consumer and a competitor.



"With all these marvelous qualities you would think everyone would use gut . . . but there are some problems with it . . ."

Too often the only consideration given to stringing is price. The most expensive string is assumed to be the best, and the cheapest, the worst. What this doesn't take into consideration is the player, the playing conditions and how often the racquet will need to be restrung.

GUTTING IT OUT

Let's talk about string qualities. When a customer asks for the best he's usually thinking about a top quality gut and he's expecting to pay anywhere from \$20-\$35 for it. What is it that makes gut so good and the choice of most top players? Gut is the most resilient string available. It has the ability to stretch, then snap back into shape quickly and easily. Those who play with gut say it cushions the ball on contact, it seems to hold the ball on the strings longer and then propel it off quickly and with greater pace and control than any other string. Because gut is a multifilament, meaning a lot of very thin strands woven together, it grabs at the ball and allows the player to hit with greater spin and touch.

Spin, touch, pace, control, with all these marvelous qualities you'd think everyone would use gut. But there are some problems with gut, most of them having to do with durability. The tennis boom put high quality gut at a premium and many stringers are finding the guts they get today somewhat poor in quality control or priced out of the average player's market. Many stringers will not guarantee gut against breakage. Because gut is a natural product, it is effected by the rain, by dampness and by humidity. Because it is a multifilament it frays with use. The very abrasiveness that helps to control the ball creates friction between the horizontal and vertical strings causing gut to burn itself out.

For most players, gut is a monetary choice rather than a competitive one. While it is true that all the pros and top amateurs use gut, it is also true that their supply is unlimited and free. It might be a different story if they had to buy it themselves. If, as a competitor, you feel that the playing qualities of gut outweigh its cost and lack of durability then it is the string to go with. For a tournament tennis player, a good set of gut can last from ten minutes to a month depending on luck and how much spin he puts on the ball. For the club player gut can last a season. For the beginner, with proper care, it can last indefinitely. Most beginners, however, can't utilize the benefits of gut and so it is a questionable investment.

Gut comes in spiral and natural colors—the spiral being mostly cosmetic. Gut that has been treated

against moisture has a smooth lacquered finish and is more expensive than untreated or roughcut gut. Roughcut gut has a very abrasive surface and is not as durable as treated gut.

For the squash player, whose game is not effected by the elements and whose ball is not as tough on racquet strings, gut can be a sensible investment that should be tried and judged accordingly. The nature of the game is such that racquets seem to break more often than strings and the beginning squash player is probably wiser to look for something besides gut. Gut in a squash racquet should be finer gauge (15L, 16 gauge) than for tennis.

The racquetball player, whose game emphasizes power and the kill shot, has little need for the qualities of gut and it is seldom used.

Some of the top lines of gut—Victor, V.S., Fred Perry, Bow Brand and Ashaway—assure fine playability and the best durability gut can provide.

SYNTHETIC SYNOPSIS

There are three basic groups of nylon string—monofilament, multifilament and oil filled. Because the nylons are man made materials, their finish can be controlled (smooth, abrasive), and their core and filament may vary (graphite, wire). The important thing about nylon, other than its cheaper price, is that it is not effected by wet weather conditions or by humidity. Even the most devout user of gut will often have an extra nylon strung racquet handy for a drizzly day.

Multifilament nylon is an attempt to produce man made gut. Like gut, it is woven and though more durable, also frays with use. Multifilament nylon has good resiliency and is the choice of many players who don't want to spend the money for gut or who live in weather zones where gut is not practical.

Monofilament nylon is an unwoven string. It's very durable though somewhat lacking in feel. The only major drawback to monofilament nylon is that it stiffens and becomes brittle in cold weather. This not only cuts down on its playability but makes it prone to breakage. Those who enjoy playing polar bear tennis and those who play on unheated squash courts should keep this mind.

Oil filled nylon is just what it sounds like. It is essentially a monofilament with a soft core for added resiliency. It plays much like a multifilament but does not fray with use, and is not effected by the cold at all.

The price range for nylon runs from about \$10 to \$18. Some of the well known multifilaments are

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"A tightly strung racquet is going to propel the ball off the strings very quickly . . . at the expense of touch and feel."

Blue Star, Gold Twist, and Ashaway's Vantage I, II and Super-nick. Monofilaments come under all sorts of brand names—Stay-tite, Special-B, and Tourney Blue. High quality oil filled nylons are produced by Head and P.D.P. among others. And Ashaway's Crossfire is a new hybrid type.

TIGHT ROPE

How do you want your racquet strung? Do you want it loose? Tight? Maybe you've heard of some of the world class players who take their tensions to extremes like Grand Master and clay court specialist, Beppe Merlo, who strings his racquets so loose the ball flies over the net like a marshmallow bouncing off a snowshoe. Then there's Bjorn Borg who asks that his racquets be strung as tight as the frame can stand, about 75 to 80 pounds. Which is correct? If you're like most players, you'd find either of these player's racquets next to impossible to use.

A tightly strung racquet is going to propel the ball off the strings very quickly and give pace at the expense of touch and feel. There is little resiliency in tighter strings and tightly strung racquets transfer the vibration and shock of impact to the racquet and arm. It's not at all forgiving on off-center hits. The beginner, the touch player, and the player suffering from tennis elbow are all going to have their racquets strung at lower tensions.

Medium tension is going to make both the strings and racquet last longer. The frame that is tightly strung is going to absorb more of the stress of impact. It's going to crack and break more easily if it's wood and go dead faster if it's aluminum. The graphite and composite racquets are so stiff that stringing should be less than usual. One of these racquets tightly strung takes on the playing characteristics of a lead pipe.

Tennis players, depending on their level of play and their preference, should have racquets strung between 50 and 65 pounds. Gut can be strung a little tighter than nylon because of its resiliency.

The squash player should consider stringing between 30 and 40 pounds. The lighter, more flexible 70+ frames particularly won't take the stress of high string tension and will warp, crack and break prematurely.

The racquetball player should string between 18 and 28 pounds. The aluminum and graphite frames can take more tension than fiberglass and may be strung accordingly. The best way for a player to determine what is right for his game is to play with as

many different frames as possible, making a note of the tension each time.

A CHECK LIST

There are things every player should check when he has a racquet strung. Is the tension even? Uneven tension creates dead spots in the string and can cause racquet warpage. Even tension can be checked by pressing the thumbs against the top and bottom corners of the racquet face. The firmness should feel even at each spot. Make sure the top and bottom strings and the side strings have adequate tension. If the strings are too loose it means tension was lost when the knots were tied and eventually this will be transferred to the rest of the strings. Are the strings lying evenly and side by side? If they are not, they are going to move and friction is going to cause faster wear. Are the strings side by side in the grooves of the racquet head? If a string crosses over another at the top of the racquet, chances are it will stick out of the frame. Scrapes and abrasions from the racquet glancing off the court surface can easily cause a break. Remember, when a string breaks, it should break from wear around the sweet spot.

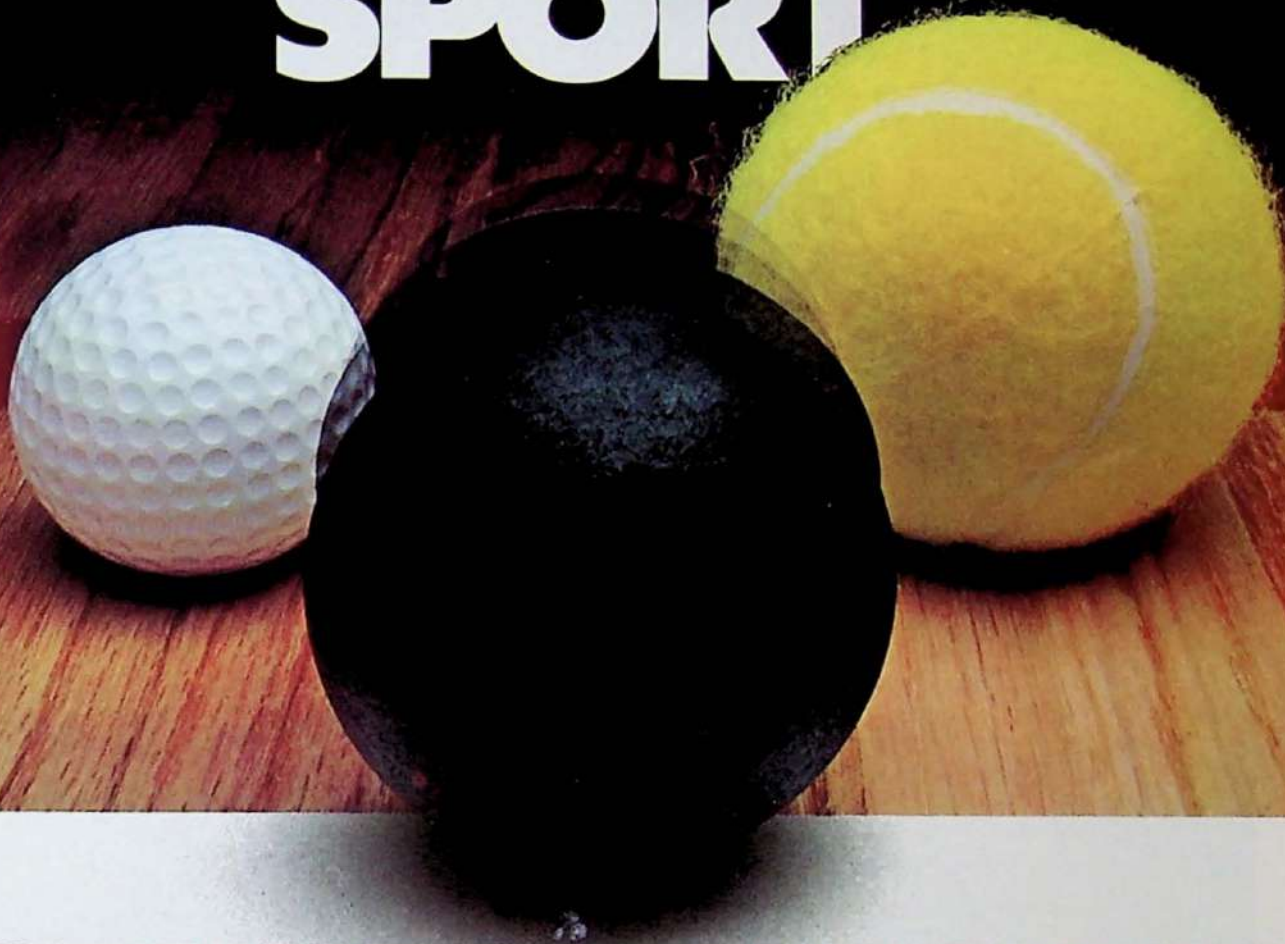
Has the stringer given you adequate leather or plastic pads at the base of the racquet head? The frame can cut the string at this point if there is no protection. If the string is gut, teflon tubing will help the string last longer. Tubing not only prevents friction but protects the gut from perspiration that comes from cradling the racquet with the free hand.

If your racquet has been strung with gut, check to see that the string has not been damaged by the stringer's clamps. If the clamps were too tight there will be milky colored bruises on the string that weaken it. Be sure to check for "burns." This happens when the stringer has pulled the horizontal strings across the vertical strings too rapidly, and friction has caused the strings to start cutting each other.

Should a racquet be patched? Patching can create unequal tension unless it is done carefully. When a string breaks and you want it patched, stop play immediately. Tell the stringer the tension and try to get a similar string for the patch. A racquet with more than one patch is not going to help your game or your frame—it's time for the racquet to be restrung.

It pays to frequent a good pro shop that specializes in personal service. They will stand by their work and should be able to answer all your questions about the products they offer. They will be able to help you get the best strings for your games and the best value. ■

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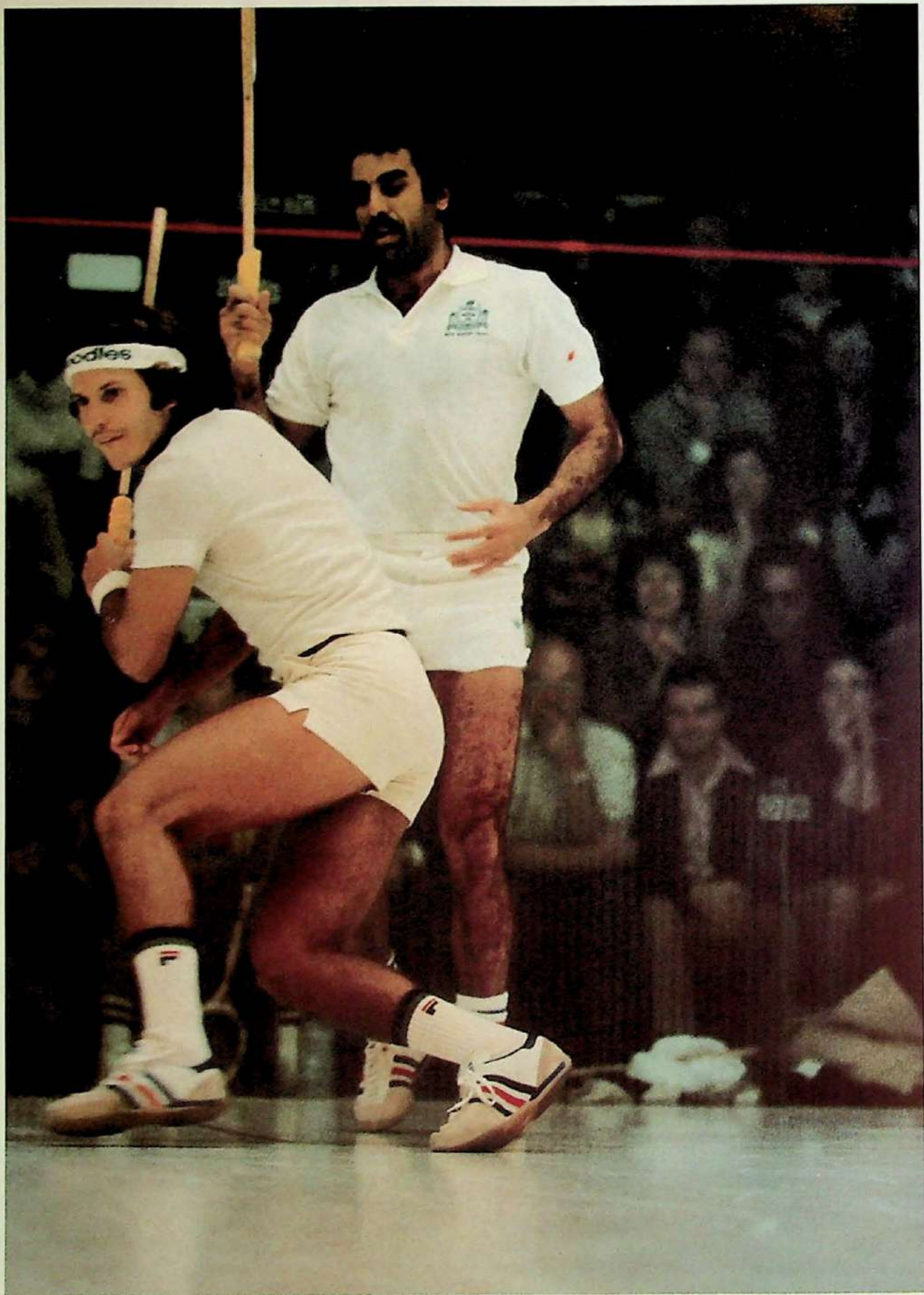
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ONE MORE NICK

STU GOLDSTEIN REACHES FOR THE TOP

by Pamela Pietri Lawrence

"What's all the noise about? Goldstein, Goldstein. All I hear about is Goldstein." Sharif Khan, numero uno and king of the squash hill, is fielding an "Are you particularly worried about Stewie?" question. His grin and beaming eyes suggest he is not terribly frightened by Stu Goldstein. "Right now Goldstein's just another fish in the sea," he says. "Goldstein. Goldstein." Sharif shakes his head. "He's got a long way to go to become a champion."

It is Saturday evening. A tower-like lounge in New York's Uptown Racquet Club is overflowing with an East Side crowd attending the Boodles Open Squash Tournament. All the top players, including Goldstein and Khan, who, as in so many other tournaments, will face each other in the finals, are putting in appearances. Goldstein, in his blue warm-up suit and white bandana, has planted himself on a wooden barstool. He makes no attempt to mingle. While Sharif, who could charm a cobra, is holding forth in the middle of the crowd. It is one of their last confrontations before the Big One, the North American Open, in January.

"A champion has to prove himself time and time and time," he asserts. "You must have tremendous resources. Talent. Stamina. A killer instinct. And you have to display them all the time. Has Goldstein done this? He hasn't done any more than any of the other wolves biting at my heels." Sharif's diatribe trails off into affirmations of the longevity of the Khan dynasty.

Off in the distance Stu Goldstein is still sitting silently, his face blank, with an ice blue stare aimed directly at Khan. He looks lean and sinuous, lupine.

Pamela Pietri Lawrence is a free lance writer and frequent contributor to *Racquet*. She's a resident of New York City and an avid squash player.

Like a lot of other squash players, Stu Goldstein entered the squash arena by way of the tennis court. He excelled on the clay courts in high school, and was ranked fifth among juniors on the Eastern circuit. Admittedly not caring to stray too far from the home fires, he turned down an athletic scholarship to Kalamazoo College in Michigan, where he could have had a chance to develop his tennis abilities, and entered Stoney Brook, a small, Long Island college, where he decided to try his hand at squash. He graduated in 1974 with a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology and a #7 ranking in intercollegiate squash.

At the moment Goldstein is ranked third in North American squash, behind Sharif Khan and Clive Caldwell. He claims an annual income of close to six figures from his salary as the pro at the Uptown Racquet Club, his winnings, and from equipment and sportswear endorsements (Dunlop and Fila). He is three-time holder of the Metropolitan Open Professional title and has taken more tournaments from "King" Khan than any other predator in the last two years—four to be exact. Goldstein is a proven and worthy contender. There is nothing left for him to do but demonstrate that he is #1. He won't rest until he does.

Stu Goldstein often looks like he could do with a good night's sleep. In fact, on this particular fall day at the Uptown Club, he is ashen. "Last year was my rookie year," he offers as an ice-breaker. "But I think now I'm about to reach my full potential, and when I do I'll be untouchable. That's what I want, to be the best squash player who ever lived." His recitation is monotonic and sullen.

"What will it take for you to reach your full potential?"

Stu Goldstein goes for a winner against Sharif Khan.

"Critics have called his game brittle and said his stroke production is mediocre compared to the other world class players."

"Time and fine tuning."

"What are you tuning up?"

"Oh, my body. I've been working out a lot. Stamina in squash is really important. And, my shot selection. I've been working a lot on my shot selection. By shot selection I mean what shot to hit for offensive and defensive reasons. Also, my concentration. I meditate a lot to relax my mind. Concentration is the key to any sport."

"Tell me about your daily routine."

"I get up around eight and do 40 minutes of yoga exercises to warm up. Sometimes after that I meditate. Usually I'm on the court by ten. I do wind sprints and then work on my ground strokes. In the afternoons I usually play with some of the local pros. But in the mornings I work a lot on my own. I also work out for several hours on Nautilus machines to build certain muscles. I take two or three mineral baths a day to loosen up. I used to run distances, but I've pretty much cut that out."

"All of that sounds exhausting."

"Well, I take a lot of naps. Rest is really important to an athlete."

"Doesn't it get a little boring doing the same thing day after day?"

"Not really. I mix it all up. Some days I'll work on the machines in the morning, other days I'll work on the machines in the afternoon."

"Are you working on any other aspects of your game?"

"The main thing I have to work on is pacing myself. Last year I was too exhausted by mid-season to play a full schedule of tournaments. I'm trying to pace myself better this year."

A 20 x 30 inch photograph hangs on a wall behind him—a stroboscopic portrait of Goldstein's ground stroke by fabled photographer Phillip Leonian. The multiple image shows the high arc of a squash racquet as he takes it back, strokes, and follows through. Each of the 24 exposures is in sharp focus but like Goldstein on the court the overall effect is a blurred whirlwind of motion.

The Goldstein bid for squash preeminence is a volatile combination of overwork, underconfidence and talent. And there is abundant talent. He is lightning fast. He appears to streak in mid-air like the Roadrunner cartoon character. He has the toned and compact body of a lightweight boxer, and has an argus-eye facility for picking off high volleys and dumping them out of reach of his opponents.

Critics have called his game brittle and said his stroke production is mediocre compared to other world class players. Admirers say that his racquet

work is improving by leaps and bounds and it's only a matter of time before he beats everyone. But the speculation about Stu Goldstein does not revolve around his court abilities alone. Whatever is or isn't lacking in his physical equipment or technical skills will turn out to play a minor role in the drama. Goldstein watchers, including Goldstein, agree that his Achilles Heel is, in this case, his head.

"Goldstein's too fine tuned," explains Frank Satterthwaite, ninth ranked world professional and a respected squash critic. "I've never known anyone hungrier. And he's got tremendous ability. But when the pressure is on, when he's down in a match, he seems to lose confidence, he clutches. He falls apart all out of proportion to his abilities."

Goldstein rarely finds it easy to talk about anything deeper than a cross-court lob, let alone his fears and his insecurity. The night of the Boodles tournament and, interestingly, just after he defeated Satterthwaite in the quarter final round, was a rare occasion. In a quiet corner, I tell Goldstein that Sharif has called him a fish in the sea, and Goldstein responds that it is he, more than anyone, who challenges Sharif. I ask him how he fares under pressure. "Fine," he replies. Then, a friend, a fellow squash pro appears with the timing of a character in a Broadway play. The friend has come to make a speech. As the testimony unfolds, a flush surfaces on Goldstein's face.

"Stu has come a long way," comes the unsolicited deposition, here abbreviated, "He's learning to accept himself. He's relaxing. He's got more confidence. He's not buckling under pressure." As opportunely as the interloper entered, he exits.

"Well," says Stu mustering the proverbial offensive defense, "I know what people say about me. That I'm insecure and it hurts my chances. I used to be scared and freeze going into tournaments." Goldstein begins to like his newly found candor. "Who isn't scared when they want to measure up? Besides, I'm not the most aggressive guy in the world." Goldstein, the psychology major, says he was a frustrated middle child, and for a long time he cast around uncommitted to anything. He explains that he is motivated by the need to succeed—but is not sure that he has the killer instinct.

"Squash is my greatest opportunity and someday I am going to be the best."

Goldstein's six years of passionate effort have proven that he is not a magical, predestined hero, but a talented and promising athlete. Self-acceptance is the anchor of a champion.

Stu Goldstein's 'someday' might not be far off. ■

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6 ply bow of Maple/Ash/Bamboo and fiber. White fiber throat faces. Steam bent maple overlays. Narrow shaft. Wood grip covered with tan & red raised perforated cowhide grip. Grip sizes A & B. Frame wt. 7½-8¼ oz. Use with both 70+ and English ball.

PRO 70

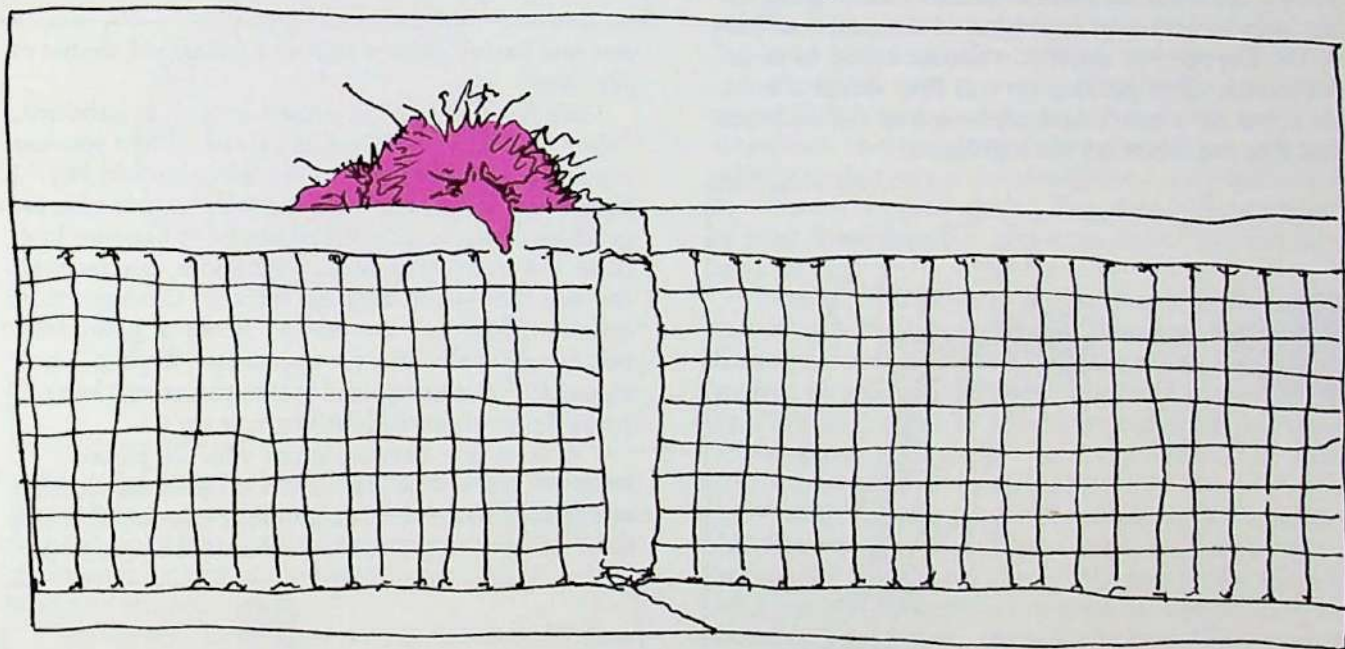
6 ply Bamboo/fiber bow construction. English head and shaft. Double fiber reinforced throat and shoulders plus bamboo overlay across throat and shoulders. Double fiber and wood pallet above grip. Rich brown perforated leather grip. Strung wt. 7½-8¼ oz. Use with both 70+ and English ball.

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ASSERTIVENESS TRAINING

OR WHEN I SAY MY AD I FEEL GUILTY

by Gerald McCarthy



Just a few weeks ago I got a brochure in the mail advertising an assertiveness training tennis camp designed specifically for the hacker. It began, "The great Seventeenth-Century playwright John Webster spoke for every hacker, when he said we are merely tennis balls in the sky, struck and bandied which way the stars please." I had never thought of it that way, so I read on.

"Are you the passive victim of your own incompetence? Are you ashamed of dropping your racquet head on a volley? Are you a mass of guilt when caught in no-man's land? Do you rush to complete a

match when the person waiting for your court unsheathes a racquet strung with gut? Well if you are, this is the tennis camp for you: two intensive days on the public courts of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania in the shadow of a majestic steel mill, with personal instruction from Waldo Pepper, Ph.D., author of the forthcoming book *When I Say My Ad I Feel Guilty*. Enrollment strictly limited to the first two hundred registrants."

The list of workshop topics was equally impressive: the first day included exhortations on "Avoiding the percentage shot," "Externalizing blame," "Baiting the crowd for maximum effect." The instructor would speak for six hours on the first day, and leave "ample time for hunting up a court and

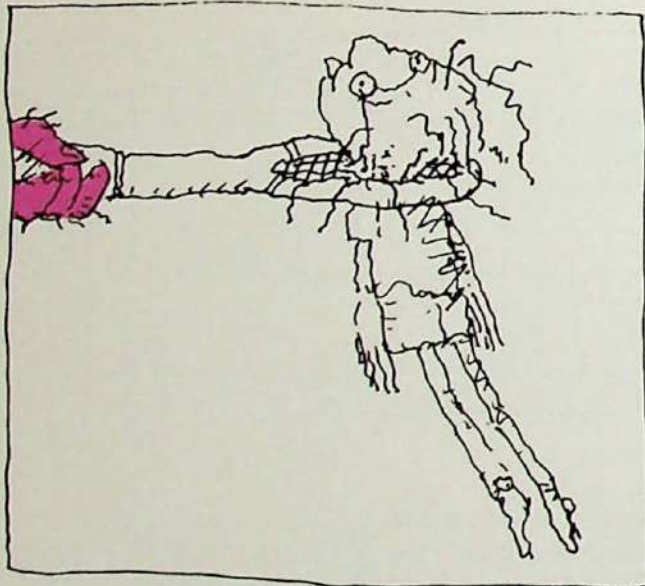
Gerald McCarthy is a frequent commentator on the racquet sports. He resides in San Antonio, Texas where he is Secretary/Treasurer of the S.A. Squash Racquets Association.

"You must smash everything in sight and with confidence . . . it creates a climate of danger on the court."

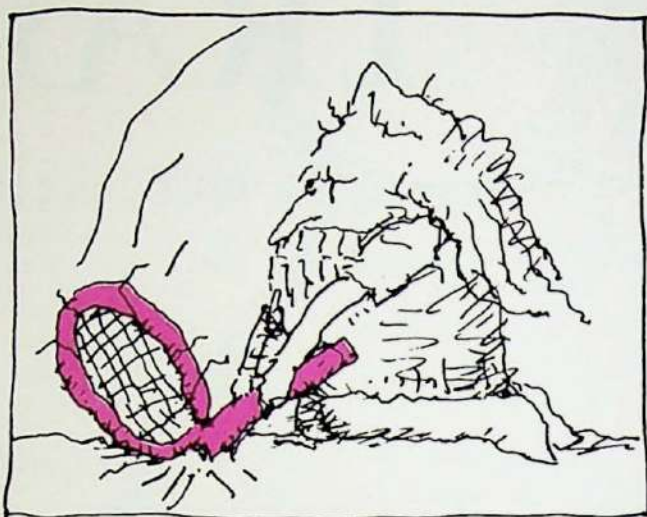
hacking around." Day two would offer instruction in these areas: "Creating a climate of fear on court," "Avoiding guilt when you bring an old can of orange balls," "Giving analytical interviews after losing love and love," and "Lying to get better matches."

....

There was a mob at the registration table when I arrived packing a boxed lunch (as directed). It was a colorful scene: Bermuda shorts of every stripe were in evidence, tie-dyed shirts vied with all-white T's and smartly-pressed bowling shirts, and many wore matching socks and basketball shoes. Women's fashions were less creative. Most wore cut-off denims, T-shirts, and went sockless in the heat. It was like a scene from the great Delacroix painting depicting Lady Liberty roaming at last in the streets of Paris. Dr. Pepper was majestic when he called us to order shortly after picking up our fifty dollar checks. He stood on a bench and addressed us for six hours that first day. Here are the highlights:



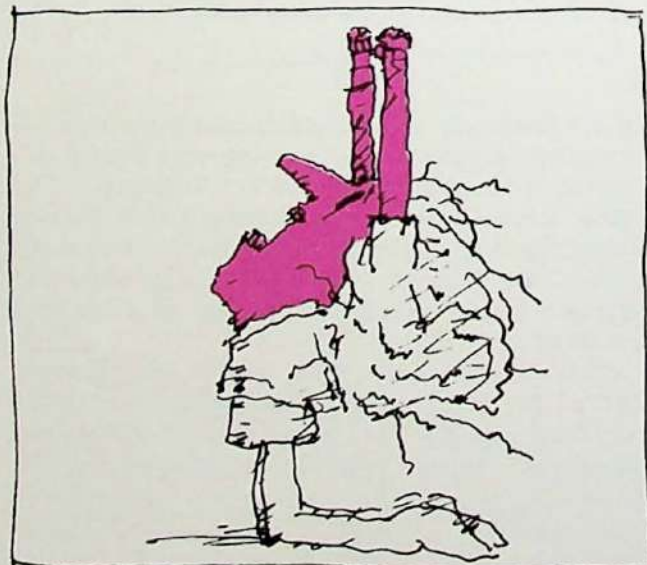
"There is a specter haunting the country clubs of this nation. For too long we hackers have been kept in our places by the platitude that *tennis is only a game*. That phrase is the opiate of the people! If tennis were, as they say, only a game and not a means of subjugating the common person, of crushing his ego, of keeping him in his place, if I say, tennis were no more than merely another recreational sport, how can you explain prize money at tournaments! (there was a shout) endorsements in which we're asked to spend the fruits of our labor! (a murmur of discontent) and, worst of all, rankings in which not one,



not one hacker's name appears! (sustained shouts of *No! No!*)

"My friends," he continued somewhat subdued, "they say this is a gentleman's game. When you lose a point you're supposed to say 'nice shot old boy!' I say *Never Lose Gracefully!* The only people who are good losers are accomplished losers—when you lose, curse the courts, the balls, your shoes, the racquet, the sun, the wind. Become intense. Change courts quickly when you are down. Being a good loser builds confidence in your opponents. Saying 'I lost' seeps into your sinews and makes you accept loss as a natural part of playing the game. It isn't.

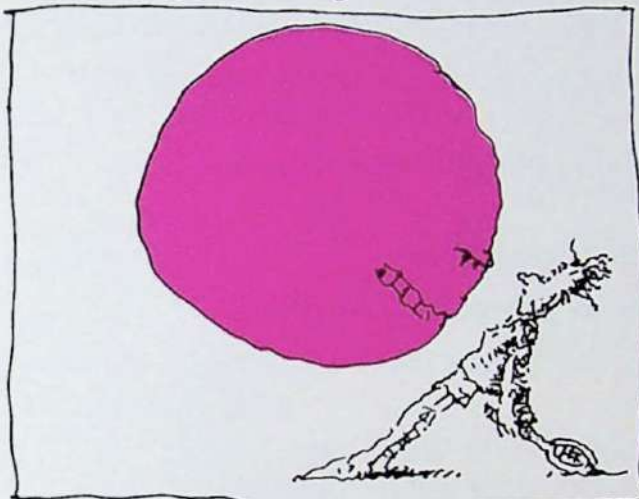
"Stare at the heavens when you are passed . . . learn to express your total disbelief, your amazement at realizing that some malign deity has interfered in favor of your opponent . . . then shake your head



"If you have lost badly and someone asks . . . say you played him tough or you had some good points."

and proceed stoically back to the service line (read Camus *The Myth of Sisyphus* for inspiration) . . . dropping your racquet is not enough to express disbelief—you must never imply that you are defenseless, but merely that you are a victim of the stars on that point.

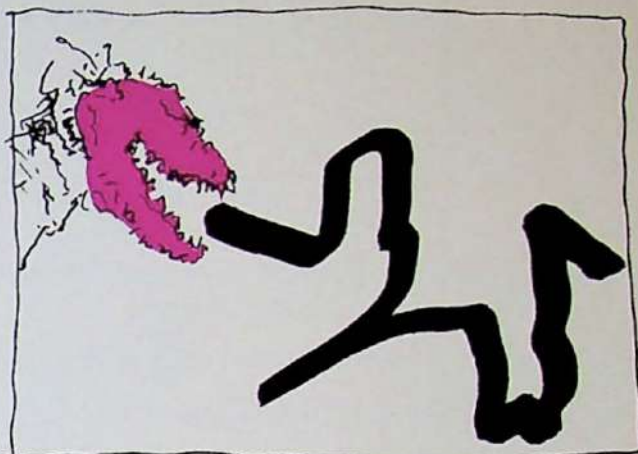
"Argue with spectators . . . gloat when you hit a good shot, clown when your opponent makes an error . . . when you are down a love set and 0-4 ask your bored girlfriend to get you some water, saying, 'it's going to be a long afternoon' . . . keep slapping your thigh . . . changing sweatbands . . . baiting the crowd so the better players will want to become heroes beating you. You'll get better matches.



His voice dropped to a mumble and the crowd began milling around trying to get a good match before the light faded. The next morning he was fresh again after a night at the trailer camp and picked up where he left off.

"My friends, never hit a percentage shot. Hitting the percentage shot, while it will improve your record in the short run, will never intimidate anyone. You must smash everything in sight . . . it creates a climate of danger on the court . . . smash with confidence and appear surprised when the ball goes over the fence . . . then, hit the next shot five times as hard . . . take overheads in the air . . . avoid groundstrokes when possible . . . hit everything in the air . . . and, most of all, swing at your volleys . . . keep moving forward . . . never drop shot your opponent . . .

"When you miss a shot, hit a practice ball with the same stroke as hard as you can—show your opponent that the error was an aberration, and make him fear forcing you into an error lest you maim him with a practice shot.



"At parties, never admit that you've lost a tennis match. If you have lost badly and someone asks, say 'I played him tough' or 'we had some good points' . . . if pressed, say 'he was in the twilight zone yesterday.' Remember, it's your word against his. The important thing is to convince the person you are talking to that you are a good player so he will agree to a match. If necessary, lie. You must get the match of your dreams before your opponent finds out you are a hacker."

"Finally, my friends, if you lose a tournament match in humiliating fashion, you must master the final defense of the assertive hacker. You must learn to give an analytic interview. Here is a speech given by a former student of mine who is now on the tour. It was given after he lost love and love in his first club tournament as a class B player":

"I wasn't getting enough torque in my racquet head on my topspin forehand so the balls were carrying all the way to the fence. My first volley wasn't deep enough to keep him outside the service line, so I couldn't get proper angle at the net. Those seventeen aces he served and my twelve double faults broke my concentration. I was positioned well between the service line and the baseline, but he kept the ball consistently at my knees. I'm just not tournament tough yet."

....

It was an exhilarating two days and I was happy to say so on the evaluation. I would like to quote from my comments to conclude this report. "Dr. Pepper is an enthusiastic and well-prepared instructor who understands the practical problems faced by the timid hacker and relates extremely well to them. I recommend this training session to all those who dream of greatness while falling off their back foot on a backhand. I especially liked his slogan that *every body loves a loser except the loser himself.*" ■

PREDICTIONS

PRECARIOUS PROGNOSTICATIONS FOR 1979

by Philip Holtzman

1. Celebrity Tennis will replace Monday Night Football and Howard Cosell will make inaccurate observations, as usual.
2. Racquetball will be found to cure the common cold.
3. A strawberry shortage will cause a crisis at Wimbledon.
4. Diana Nyad, marathon swimmer and squash player, will actually finish something.
5. Donald Dell, in a moment of magnanimity, will buy LaGuardia Airport and ban all planes from taking off and landing during the U.S. Open at Flushing Meadows.
6. Vitas Gerulaitis will be turned away from Studio 54 when it is discovered that he comes from Queens and wears polyester shorts.
7. Ilie Nastase will have a candy bar named after him called "Nuts".
8. Peggy Steding will win the Vidal Sassoon award for creativity in hair design.
9. Someone will invent a new racquet game and it will become the fastest growing sport in America.
10. Danny Seemiller will be stopped by the secret police at the World Table Tennis Championships in North Korea and his famous loop drive will be confiscated.
11. World Team Tennis will be resurrected by a new franchise which will win the championship because of its gritty play and because it's the only team.
12. A new squash ball will revolutionize the game and necessitate heavier racquets.
13. Bjorn Borg will be seen simultaneously on every television channel playing in pre-taped tournaments while spotted in person giving lessons to Princess Caroline.
14. Yves St. Laurent will startle the racquet world with his new sport deodorant called Opium Plus which makes even losers happy!
15. Sharif Khan will call for a let when he reads that Stu Goldstein has once again been named World Champion by Goldstein's home club!
16. After a mild three month suspension in 1978 for poor conduct Ilie Nastase will be banned from tennis for life after eating a tennis net in protest of a let call at the Open.
17. Realizing that the trend for oversized racquets has not peaked, Prince will come out with a new "door sized" model.
18. With inflation on the rise, the WCT will announce that the winner of this year's championship in Dallas will win the state of Texas.



DUNLOP AND GOLDSTEIN: A SQUASH MATCH SINCE 1976.

Stu Goldstein has been a Dunlop fan since before anybody was a Stu Goldstein fan. Know why?

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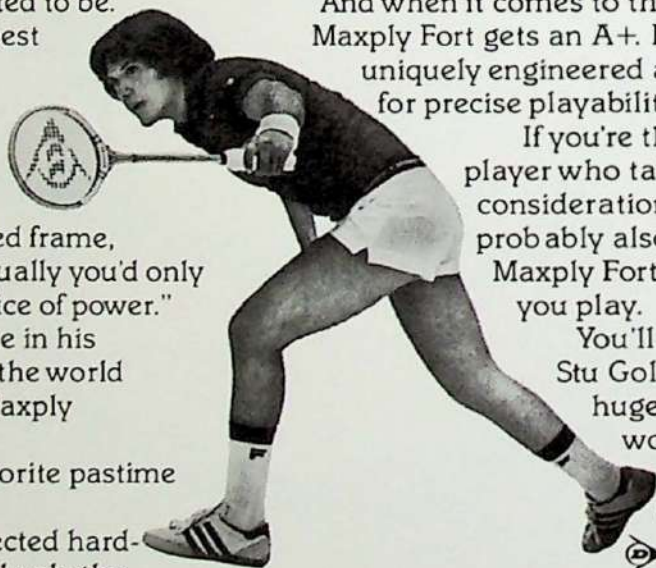
And when it comes to the 70+ ball, the Maxply Fort gets an A+. It's the racquet uniquely engineered and weighted for precise playability with this ball.

If you're the kind of player who takes all this into consideration, you should probably also be taking the Maxply Fort to every game you play.

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**WHEREVER SQUASH IS THE #1 SPORT,
MAXPLY FORT IS THE #1 RACQUET.**

THE ATHLETE

A PHOTO ESSAY ON BARBARA MALTBY

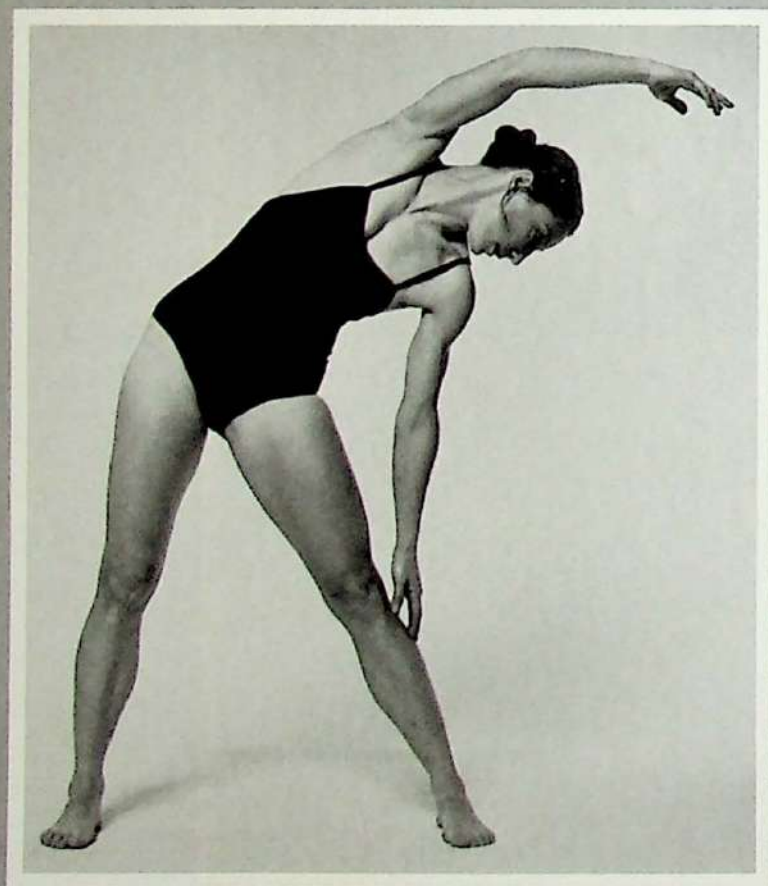
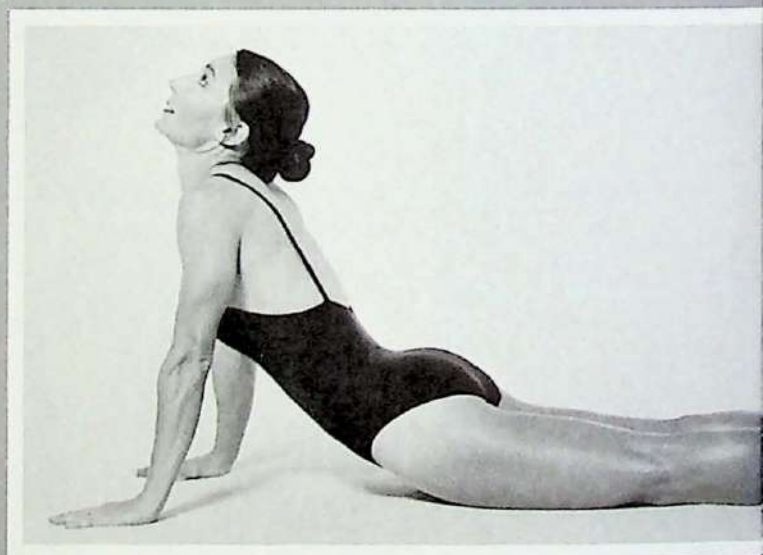
photographed by Roger Prigent

"The aim of competition is to win. All my training and practice are directed toward that goal. But just to win is not enough. Measuring myself against another player is inherently self limiting. I want to be the best . . . I want to be the fastest, strongest, fittest and most skilled player. If I can see one area I can improve I am not satisfied."

—Barbara Maltby, Squash Champion



"My greatest fear is not being able to play"

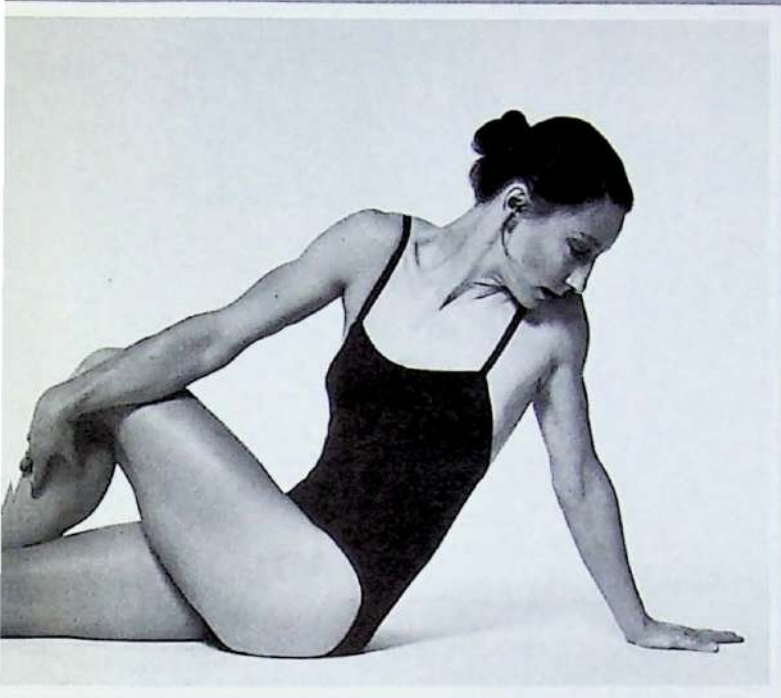


"Satisfaction comes from playing well as much as winning."

"The ultimate test of my ability is competing under pressure."

"Dominance is a mental process"

"My confidence comes from endurance and stamina."



makeup by Jordan Braithwaite



"All my training during the year is aimed at two or three matches."

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BASH

ALMOST EVERYONE WAS THERE

by Richard Szathmary

Forget about such party givers of present and past as Truman Capote, Elsa Maxwell, Pat Buckley, Marie Antoinette and Nero, because the First Annual (and quite likely last ever) Racquet Magazine New Year's Eve Bash was the *ultimate*.

It was a classy affair. From the doormen in their Tacchini warm-ups to the Fila cocktail napkins, no expense was spared. The guest list was equally chic. Not even Steve Rubell of Studio 54 got in. And the evening proved that even off the court, racquet players are a feisty, fun-loving bunch.

Looking a little surley, Marty Hogan dashed around, pet Doberman in tow, attempting a fly kill with a fly swatter. Nobody noticed except his arch rival Charlie Brumfield who crowed triumphantly, "I'm the People's Champion."

Meanwhile the Grand Dame of racquetball, Peggy Steding, sporting a new hairdo conceived especially for the occasion, chatted with a nattily dressed Sharif Khan.

Bjorn Borg and Guillermo Vilas warily circled each other like gunslingers over the canapes for most of the night. But when Jimmy Connors began clamoring for a food fight, it looked like the festivities might come to an early end. "Why don't you grow up like Burt Reynolds did?" exclaimed Chris Evert. Just then Ilie Nastase stepped in, put a lampshade on his head and proceeded to do the "Rumanian rhumba" until he stepped on table tennis champion Danny Seemiller's toes.

Clark Graebner, who was arm wrestling with Herb FitzGibbon over a glass of Passport Scotch, casually flicked quiche crumbs from the satin lapels of his dinner jacket, and suggested that if Nastase didn't sit down he'd finish what he started in their Davis Cup Match years ago.

In another corner of the room, Hilary Hilton was trying to explain paddle tennis to a totally baffled Heather McKay while guests were treated to Sharif Khan's *a capella* rendition of "My Old Man" and to a lengthy, point by point refutation of "The Demise of Capitalism" by Victor Niederhoffer. The squash great also graciously accepted congratulations on having picked matching shoes for the evening.

George Plimpton jotted down all the night's proceedings for an article in the *Star*. He agreed heartily with Pierre Etchebaster that they just weren't making racquet champions like they used to.

And as daylight neared, funseekers like Liza Minnelli, Halston, Regine, Bianca Jagger and Andy Warhol, who'd been lined up for hours, were mercifully admitted into the club to gaze at Racquet's luminaries. ■







Deeter

Catherine Deeter © 1979

A RACQUET AFFAIR

HAPPINESS IS A SECOND RACQUET SPORT

by Herb Fitz Gibbon

Millions of Americans get divorced each year. We are a fickle lot, so it should come as no surprise that increasing numbers of tennis, racquetball, squash and platform tennis players are also getting restless. Racquet divorces are not yet occurring as frequently as those between the sexes, but there is an accelerating trend toward, if not divorce, then certainly bigamy.

In the past, these restless racqueteers have been dismissed by their peers as unstable. But all that these fickle souls crave is a little variety. So if you have been tempted to leave your first racquet love for another, or are just thinking of cheating a little in the off season, we understand. However, such an important decision should be made with full knowledge of the pitfalls and opportunities that lie ahead.

Tennis is the Mount Everest of racquet sports. To conquer the game you must be prepared to put in endless hours of daily practice for five to 10 years. To start with, the forehand must be learned, with its major variations: high, low, short, deep, approach, pass, volley and return of serve. Each of these shots is used regularly during the course of play. Once you are comfortable with these eight variations, you can start on the eight backhand variations—the serve (first, second, spin, slice and flat), overhead, lob, and drop shot.

As if this wasn't enough, grips must be changed, trajectories adjusted and speed and spin altered to achieve the proper stroke. Once all of this is mastered, you can start learning to play on grass (Wimbledon), hard courts (Flushing Meadow), and clay

(Roland Garros), with a dozen different kinds of balls, from the watermelon pink Pirelli to the Titan II Spalding clay court ball.

Tennis requires the stamina of a camel rather than the speed of a race horse. Movements are not always rapid, but the distances covered are large relative to the other racquet sports, and the time it takes to play a match is often quite long. With the summer sun melting the top of your head, and the humidity sapping your body fluids, the latter stages of the third set are comparable to a hike in the Sahara.

Those are the challenges of tennis. Like those who attempt Everest, you'll have the satisfaction of taking on the toughest racquet sport and the pleasure of playing in the sun, without walls or opponents hemming you in.

If you doubt that tennis is the most difficult of the racquet sports, consider the many great champions tennis has spawned in the other racquet sports. Vic Niederhoffer, for one, played the Eastern tennis circuit as a teenager and in college was good enough to make the Harvard varsity. He took up squash during his freshman year in Cambridge and, after only four seasons had established himself as the best college squash player in the country. After college he went on to become the leading amateur squash player for a decade.

Not satisfied with his squash achievements, Niederhoffer decided in 1975 to play in the national racquetball championships. On his first and only try at the championships, he got to the quarter finals.

The list of tennis players switching successfully from tennis to another racquet sport goes on and on, but I know of no non-tennis racquet player turning

Herb FitzGibbon is a former Davis Cup player and is presently one of the foremost platform tennis players in the world. He lives in New York City.

"If you doubt that tennis is the most difficult . . . consider the many champions tennis has spawned in the other racquet sports."

to tennis and achieving national prominence.

If tennis is Everest, then racquetball is Blueberry Hill, a game loaded with thrills at every level of competence. Racquetball is the easiest of the major racquet sports because the racquet is short (18") and has a large hitting surface (11" long and 9" wide). For comparative purposes, my tennis racquet (Wilson Kramer) is 27" long with a hitting surface 12 1/4" long and 9 1/4" wide. In addition, the ball is extremely lively, allowing a player plenty of time to retrieve it before the second bounce. Also, the ball need only hit the front wall, at any height, and not even directly, for the ball to be in play. Even the ceiling can be used as a means of getting the ball to the front wall. Finally, the strokes themselves are not very involved because of the uncomplicated objective of hitting a large (20' x 20') front wall from less than 40 feet away rather than hitting the ball over a net and into a court.

Racquetball has only three main strokes—forehand, backhand and overhead (ceiling ball). The serve is so similar to the forehand stroke that the two can be considered together. And all of these strokes use wrist snap, often severe, in order to generate power. Grips in racquetball are similar to tennis, with eastern forehand and backhand grips (no thumb up the back) recommended.

Since the ball does not have to be brought down into a court, spins do not play much of a role in the game. Most are flat, although side spin is occasionally used on corner kills.

Racquetball is windsprints with a racquet. The distances covered are not as great as in tennis, but the movements are quicker and the game is more energetic. While playing an hour of tennis in the hot sun may sap your strength, it really does little for your cardiovascular system. An hour of racquetball, if you can last that long, is great exercise, great fun and far less demanding mentally than tennis. You can let it all hang out, in a way you never could on a tennis court.

Squash skills are somewhere between tennis and racquetball. Like racquetball, squash requires a limited number of strokes, little spin (under spin or side spin only), uses severe wrist snap and is played in a four walled court. Only one grip is used (continental) in squash, but the game is harder to learn than racquetball because of the size of the racquet face. A squash racquet is 27" long with a small hitting surface (8 1/2" long and 8" wide), giving it the worst ratio of length to hitting surface of the major racquet sports.

This problem is compounded by the squash ball

itself. Even using a racquetball racquet, the squash ball would be difficult to hit. It is smaller and bounces like a rotten orange compared to a tennis or racquetball ball. While the shape of the racquet allows you to hit the ball very hard, the ball hardly ever bounces much above the thighs.

Platform tennis combines many aspects of the three previous games. The playing area of a platform tennis court is smaller than a tennis court and is screened in with wire mesh, so that little time is wasted chasing after stray balls. The strokes are primarily those of tennis without tennis' bewildering diversity of shots. And as the ball is played off the wire mesh, it is similar to wall play in squash or racquetball.

Platform tennis is easier to play than tennis. Not only is the court smaller, but the racquet is shorter (17") and a big hitting surface (9 1/2" long and 8" wide). The strokes require a firm wrist, but the backhand, unlike all of the others, does not count for much here. If the ball comes to that side, most people just lob and come out fine.

The chief difference between platform tennis and the other racquet sports is that only doubles are played regularly. Here you are working with your partner rather than against your opponent.

If none of the aforementioned racquet sports catches your fancy, yet you still yearn for a racquet affair, perhaps you would be more comfortable with badminton or table tennis. Almost everyone has played either badminton in the backyard or table tennis down in someone's basement, so there should be no surprises except that competitive badminton is played indoors only and table tennis is always played where the backcourt area is free of storage boxes. These games can be tremendously enjoyable and provide a pleasant diversion.

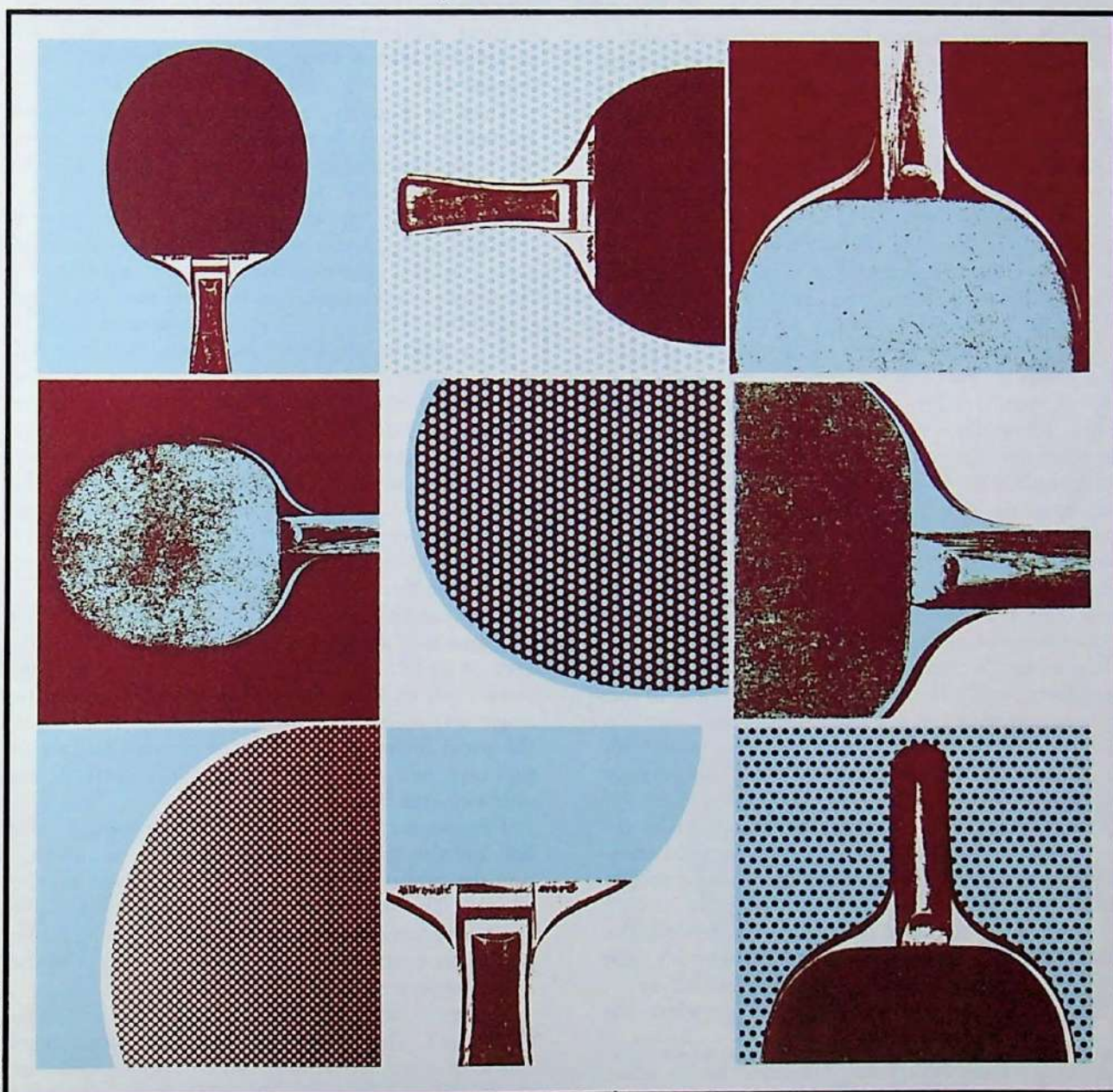
Finally there's court tennis and hard racquets. For the average racquet buff, getting involved with court tennis is like a liaison with Prince Charles or Princess Caroline. Yet the "sport of kings" might be well worth the effort if you can get on one of the seven courts in the country. Hard Racquets is the fastest of the racquet sports and certainly the most dangerous. The analogy of Wilbur Mills and Fanne Foxx may be a little strong, but it provides a sense of the excitement and risk associated with the sport. There are only ten hard racquets courts in the United States, so unless you have entre to some of the most exclusive clubs in the country, don't even consider it.

So there you have it. A little something for everyone. Just remember one thing—don't feel guilty. Variety is the spice of life. ■

HIGH TECH

YOUR PADDLE WILL NEVER BE THE SAME

by Thomas Wintrich



G. DaRif © 1979

"Suddenly the game was silent and the speed and spin produced by the unusual surface proved devastating to players . . ."

The controversy over the introduction of the "spaghetti" racquet in tennis produced a hearty, unsympathetic laugh in some circles. While the tennis world debated and belittled the technological innovation that was upsetting many top stars, table tennis players were merely indifferent to this flagrant assault on tradition. After all, modern technology has affected table tennis more than any other racquet sport and over the last 20 years the innovations have so altered the game that the players no longer feel threatened by change.

Sandwich rubber transformed table tennis into one of the world's fastest racquet sports and added a new element of spin as well. But technology marches on and more recently another new element has been added to the game of speed and spin. Deception is the latest by-product of equipment manufacturers' research and the newest rubbers available are the reason why table tennis players paid little attention to the "spaghetti" question.

Exactly what has the 20th century done to table tennis? The Mark V, Super Turbo, Sriver, Tempest, and, coming soon, the all-new Tornado. Would you believe these names are really rubber surfaces for table tennis racquets and not sleek new automobiles rolling off Detroit assembly lines?

Well, that's exactly what they are and these five are just a few of the many choices the modern player can glue on his favorite racquet — something as commonplace in table tennis as restringing in tennis. Only more so. After all, there are two sides to every bat, so when either surface needs to be replaced, anyone can simply peel off the old sheet and slap on a new one with the help of a little rubber cement and a single edged razor. Presto! you have a new racquet without having to buy another blade.

It's a very economical way of maintaining your equipment and also a convenient method of experimenting with the hundreds of different rubbers available. Sooner or later, through trial and error you'll find the best combination of playing surfaces and paddle for your style.

This is often a bewildering search, especially for the neophyte who should start off with an inexpensive racquet that comes complete with the rubber already on it. These bats are comparatively "slow" and come with the kind of rubber that affords the most control. When skills begin to improve it's time to start investigating the numerous alternatives.

Countless is more appropriate. Between the

hundreds of blades available and an equal number of rubbers, the possible combinations reach into the thousands. Game style and type of grip solve some problems in proper racquet selection, but it can still be a very confusing process.

Life wasn't always so complicated for the table tennis buff. Prior to the '50s, the standard racquet consisted of a thin layer of pimpled rubber applied directly to the wood surface of the blade. That combination gives a "plunk, plunk" sound since the ball is practically contacting the wood surface of the paddle. These bats are still used and thousands of cheap imitations of the competition models are included in table tennis starter kits sold throughout the world.

Then in Bombay, at the 1952 World Championships, Hiroji Satoh revolutionized the sport when he introduced the foam rubber paddle. Suddenly the game was silent and the speed and spin produced by the unusual surface proved devastating to players who had never encountered such a racquet. Although Satoh was not considered a contender for the crown that year, he won the world singles title. Table tennis was never the same again.

After a quarter century, modern technology has advanced the original innovation resulting in the vast assortment of specialized rubbers now on today's market. The players themselves have adapted to the manufacturers' creations, devising new styles, strokes, and strategies and virtually eliminated the hard rubber bat from competition. Table tennis experts are now committed to a game of speed and spin and the backbone of the offensive approach is the sandwich type rubber.

Simply explained, a sheet of soft pimpled rubber is placed pips up or pips down and applied directly onto a thin layer of sponge which can vary in thickness from 1 to 2.5 mm. The two pieces form the single unit which is then glued sponge side down to the wood blade, resulting in the smooth surface or pips-out racquets, both of which comprise the sandwich type bats.

The smooth surface is capable of "gripping" the ball and the sponge backing allows the ball to sink into the rubber so that it will be catapulted off the paddle. The pips-out racquet does not have the gripping action and produces much less spin, but it gives more control because it is not as affected by the opposing player's spin.

Sponges are generally available in four thicknesses. The thickest produces the most speed but with a certain sacrifice of control. In addition, the sponge can be either hard or soft which creates

Tom Wintrich is the chairman of the public relations committee of the United States Table Tennis Association. He has written widely on the sport of table tennis.

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"Modern technology has transformed the sport into a game of speed, spin and deception even for the average player."

yet another set of variables that directly effect the action of the ball. The entire matter is further complicated by the type of blade used, that is, fast, medium, or slow.

Confusing? Well, that's just the beginning. The same manufacturers that helped produce the attacking players have also directed their creative attention to the defensive competitor. The companies have produced rubbers with exotic names like Sriver Killer, Phantom 009, Feint, Screw, and Tackiness Chop, all intended to neutralize the offensive opponent.

There is no reason, of course, why attacking players can't use the tricky surfaces. Unlike the equipment in other racquet sports, table tennis paddles can be considered two-sided so the rubber used on the forehand need not be the same as that used for the backhand. It makes sense to combine an inverted rubber with the other type so returns can be varied — using the fast rubber to spin or kill a shot and the other side to defend or change the pace.

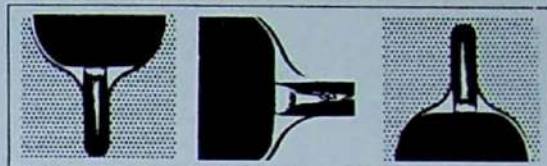
Many players mix brands of inverted rubbers or different sponge thicknesses of the same kind. This is done as a means of matching a rubber's particular characteristic with the player's individual strokes. The rubber's response is very often not the same for the forehand and backhand. The variety available gives the option of experimenting to discover the correct combination.

Modern technology has transformed the sport of table tennis and the art of deception is gaining a strong foothold in the game of speed and spin. Who knows, someday starter kits designed for four people may include eight kinds of rubber. When that happens, I'm going for the carbon blade with Butterfly C4 on one side and 2.5mm Mark V on the other.

The ITA has banned the "spaghetti" racquet and the controversy has ended. A small minority within the USTTA would like to see similar action concerning the rubbers available in table tennis but it's doubtful if the surfaces will ever be standardized beyond the present rules established by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

Change has been the constant companion of table tennis throughout the sport's history and technology is the most obvious cause and symbol of the game's evolution. Today's top competitors, however, are not fighting these changes. Instead they are learning how to play with the latest equipment available and during the process they are proving again and again that it's the player and not the equipment that is the most important element in any sport. ■

THE ART OF DECEPTION

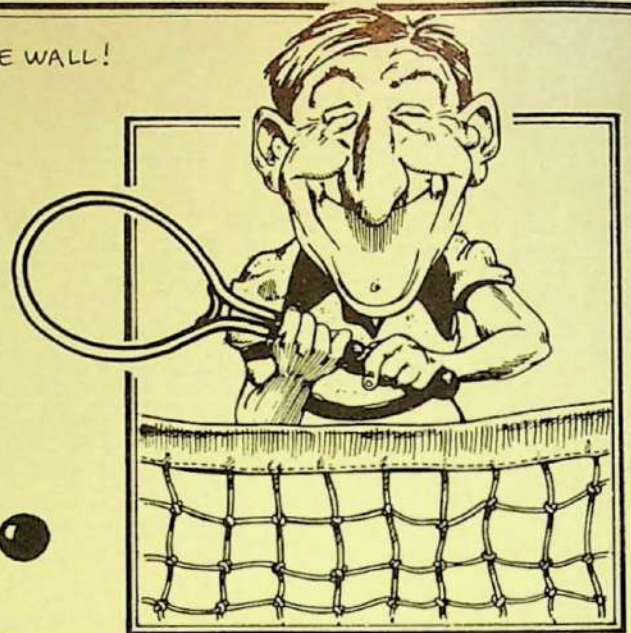


Butterfly's "Sriver Killer" is an anti-spin, dead rubber unaffected by the opponent's spin shots, that gives the user good control while greatly reducing the possibility of the loose return often forced by the spinning shot. It also absorbs the speed of a well hit ball reducing the threat of a fast, spinning shot. On the other hand the surface is slow, giving no real offensive power and it makes a peculiar, flat sound that warns the opposition ahead of time.

The same company also markets "Tackiness Chop," a black rubber that is sticky to the touch. In fact, a ball pressed on the surface will adhere for several seconds before gravity wins. It is ideal for choppers, those players who love to send the ball back loaded with underspin, because the same strokes with Tackiness will generate more spin than other rubbers. The surface must be kept clean to maximize the effect and the rubber will wear out faster than other inverted surfaces.

Yasaka manufactures the most controversial innovation and the company calls its wonder rubber, Phantom. It is a pips-out rubber on which the individual pimples are narrow and slightly longer. It is available in three models — "007," "008," and "009." The 007 has no sponge backing, like hard rubber, while 008 has a thin layer and 009 has a thicker layer. The effects of the rubber on the ball are as weird as the name implies, and it often produces unpredictable returns that even amaze the user. Spin and speed don't bother it much and its greatest attribute is the ability the Japanese describe as "earthquaking the ball." Simply stated, it often spits "knuckle balls" that literally hop in mid-flight, giving the shaking or earthquake comparison. It's frustrating to watch and will disrupt timing again and again. Although Phantom is relatively new on the market, it has been well received and is now being used by many defensive players.

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THE ART OF THE EGG BALL

YOU PAY FOR THE FRAME SO USE IT

by Peter Kozik

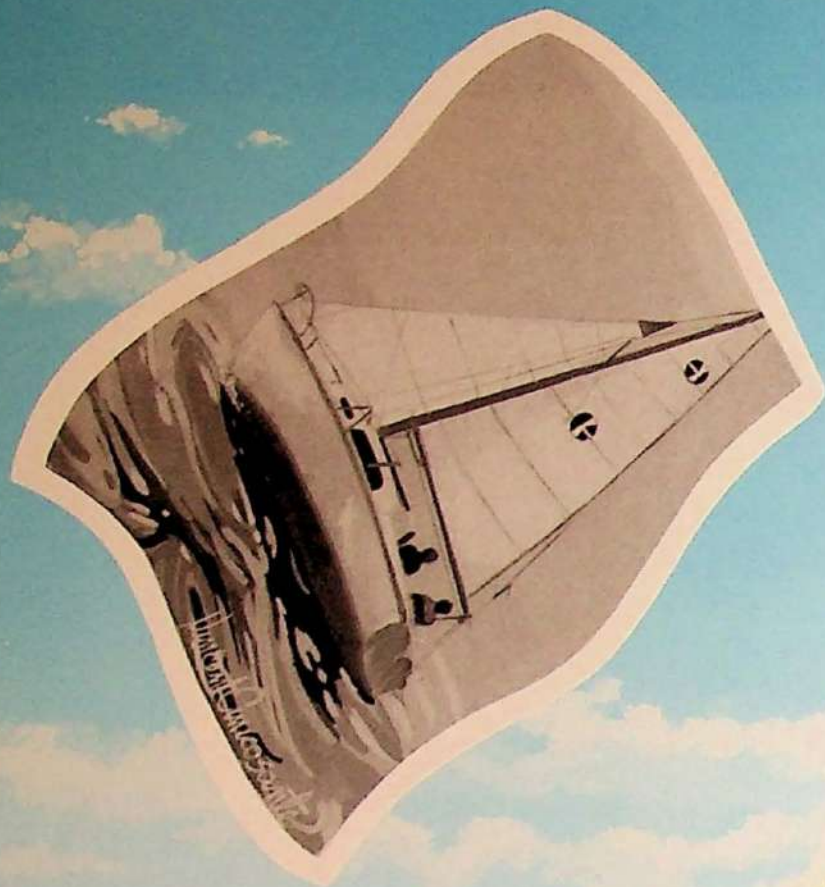
Boo space age. Boo technology. In this carbon coated, polyester world, it is time to heed the call to "get back to basics" as the Ivory Soap people are forever telling us, and appreciate an element much maligned in racquet circles: the frame. I am here to sing the praises of wood and metal—to promote the hitting of the ball off the frame, thus causing the "egg" or "fungoo" ball as it is known. Some may find this unreasonable, adding a nasty kink to the already "how to" dominated worlds of racquet sports, but hitting the ball off the frame has its advantages. Not to mention the points you'll make on surprise alone!

Hitting the ball off the frame can make you popular. Just imagine being able to hit the ball consistently into the next court, or over the fence, or up into the gallery, and having to bellow out, "Ball, please" to the attractive person playing beside you or walking past the court. You can follow this ice breaker up with an innocent "Nice day, isn't it?" or "I see you use a Bancroft." The rest is easy street. Beyond providing you with the stuff for conversational foreplay, hitting the ball off the frame gives your game an air of strangeness and uncertainty, an almost exotic quality.

Besides all this: It keeps the strings of your racquet from wearing out, it keeps pigeons from flying too low, and it gives you command of the area around you, helping you define your personal space as anything within five hundred feet.

But how you might ask, can I hit the ball consistently off the frame and enjoy all these advantages? Well, like anything in the racquet sports, concentration is the key. You've got to think the ball onto the wood. It's best to follow the ball ever so slightly and do *not* keep your eye on the ball. Keeping your eye just a few inches *behind* the ball usually works the best. Sometimes, it is best to forget that the ball is even coming toward you, or that you are playing a racquet sport at all. Pretend you are swimming or dancing or shopping for antiques. Concentrate on forgetting. Practice this technique by locking your keys in your car, wearing mismatched socks or losing your children regularly in supermarkets.

With a little luck and a lot of hard work you can master the art of the egg ball.



SAN DIEGO

RACQUETBALL CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

by Virginia Hyde



San Diego breathes racquetball. Some say that by coming here for a week, you can improve your game 100% simply by osmosis. The city has the highest concentration of racquetball courts in the country. Both Leach Industries and Ektelon, major manufacturers of racquetball equipment, are located here. And in turn, their presence has brought many of the pros. Marty Hogan lives in San Diego and so do Charlie Brumfield, Davey Bledsoe, Marci Greer, Rich Wagner, Jerry Hilecher and Steve Strandemo.

Why? For one, the weather. San Diego was voted the only area in the United States with perfect weather by *Holiday Magazine*. The gentle sea breezes make San Diego an eternal spring, cool in the summer, warm in the winter. The Pacific also makes San Diego a watery playground. There are 70 miles of beaches ranging from people watching spots to secluded sandy nooks. (San Diego used to be the home of the only public beach in the country where nudity was permitted. Nude bathing is now illegal there, but the law is rarely enforced. Most swim here *sans*

clothing.) Off shore, just beyond the breakers, you can see dolphins swimming north in the morning and south in the evening. In January, the dolphins are joined by their relatives, the grey whales, who pass by San Diego on their annual migration to Mexican waters.

If marine life is an interest, you should stop at Sea World, a marine park dedicated to the proposition that sea creatures are not squirmy, slimy monsters lurking in murky waters but fascinating and sometimes even friendly beings. One of the big attractions is a 400,000 gallon aquarium filled with sharks—"Jaws" come to life.

Balboa Park is the cultural center of the city. A sprawling green refuge located in the heart of town, it is comprised not only of the park itself, but the San Diego Zoo, one of the best in the country, seven museums and a botanical garden. In the summer, Balboa Park is also the home of a Shakespeare festival and the local opera company.

Outside the city is the Wild Animal Park, a zoo-keeper's dream come true. Here the animals cavort more freely than at the zoo, so freely, that sometimes they are impossible to spot. Luckily though, a

Virginia Hyde is a free lance writer who resides in San Diego. She is a racquetball enthusiast who finds time to enjoy the outdoor diversissements of Southern California.

"Mission Bay is a playground for waterskiing, sailing, swimming, jogging and strolling . . . "

monorail takes you through those areas where the animals roam and hide. During the summer months it operates at night when the animals are more likely to be moving about, but be sure to bundle up for the nighttime rides—it gets chilly out in the wilds.

After a day's touring, you can choose from a diversity of lodgings. Hotel Circle, located in central San Diego, offers convenient access to racquetball courts. Guests at any of the five Atlas Hotels located in Hotel Circle may use the facilities of the posh Atlas Health Club for \$5 per person per visit. Besides racquetball courts, the Atlas Club provides lighted tennis courts, a pool, jogging track, saunas, steam room—the works. Three or four times a year the Atlas Health Club also offers a four-day, four-night racquetball clinic which includes twenty hours of instruction by such pros as Davey Bledsoe, hotel accommodations, passes to local attractions and racquetball equipment.

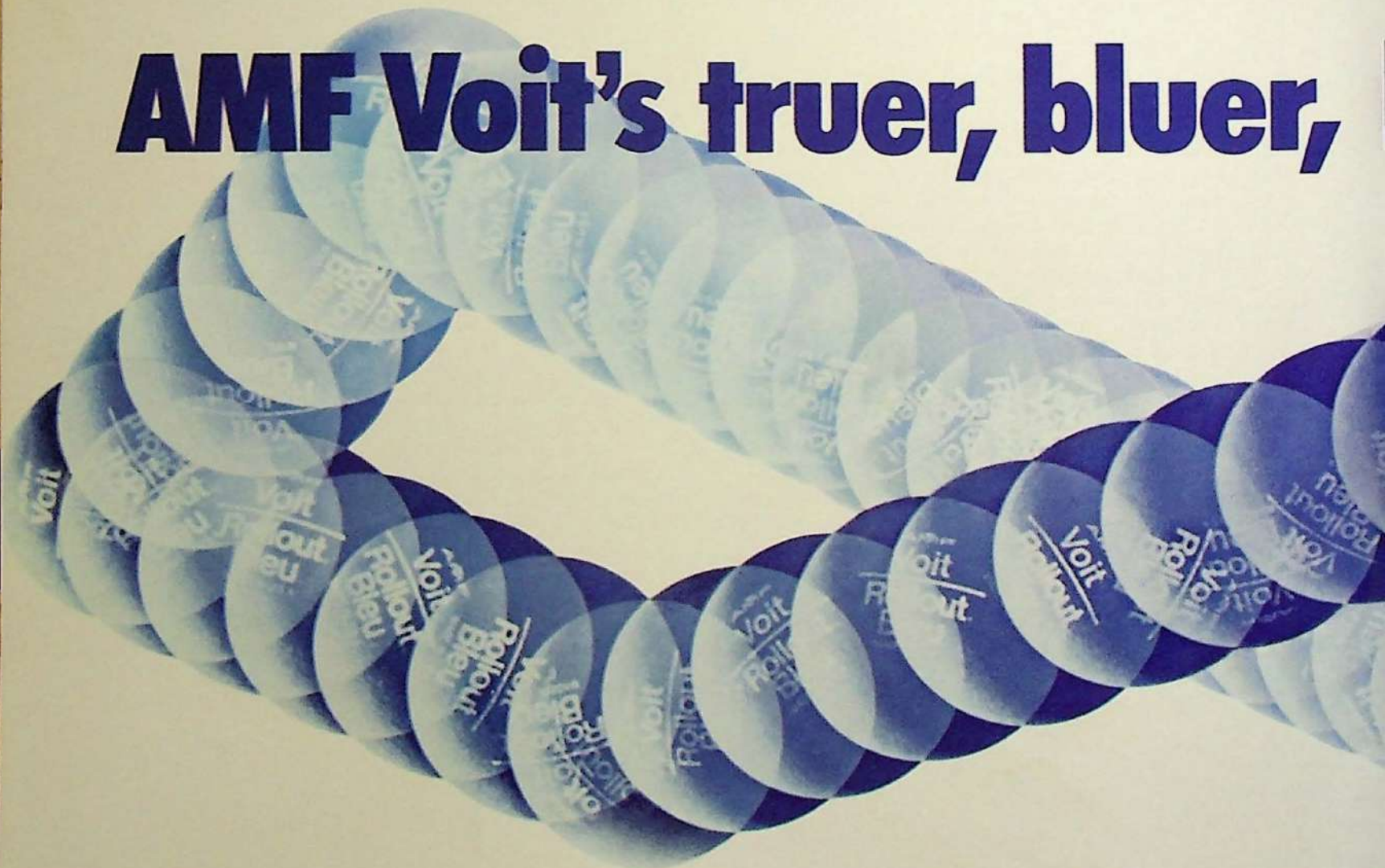
San Diego has some grand old hotels you might consider. The Hotel Del Coronado is a classic white

wooden Victorian wonder festooned with red domes and spires. A gingerbread castle with a rich history, its guest list has included presidents and royalty. The Hotel Del sits on a sandy beach in the out-of-the-way village of Coronado. There are abundant facilities for tennis but none for racquetball. The La Valencia, another grand old hotel, is perched just above the ocean in the luxurious seaside village of La Jolla.

Two salt water bays meander through San Diego. San Diego Bay serves as the Navy's parking lot and provides a watery backdrop for downtown highrises. Two man-made peninsulas, Harbor Island and Shelter Island, extend into San Diego Bay and provide waterfront lodgings convenient to downtown.

The second bay—Mission Bay—is a playground for water-skiing, sailing, swimming, jogging and strolling. Mission Bay is dotted with waterfront hotels. Vacation Village has an extensive tennis complex, while the Islandia Hyatt House is a mariner's delight. It nestles in among sailboat masts and sail-

AMF Voit's truer, bluer,



"The best spots to watch the pros in action are George Brown's racquetball spas in Kearny Mesa and on Balboa Avenue . . ."

boats drift by it in an endless, silent parade.

Not far south of downtown San Diego lies the congenial, teeming city of Tijuana, a border town metropolis that throbs with people and music and life. Neither authentic Mexico nor authentic U.S., it is authentic Border Town and worth experiencing. If you're driving the rules of the road are a little different there. You'll never make it across town if you're docile. For that matter, the roads are different too. Tijuana is an adventure, but a safe one.

Eating out in San Diego offers the opportunity to sample fresh seafood, Mexican cooking and an abundance of fresh fruits not always available elsewhere. Anthony's restaurants can be counted on to deliver tasty seafood, as can Ocean Fresh, a La Jolla seafood eatery. For French seafood, there's La Maison des Pescadoux in Ocean Beach. Mexican food is dispensed in numerous restaurants. Aztec #2 in Old Town is a local favorite. San Diego restaurants also offer a wide range of other cuisines—French, Italian, Lebanese, Japanese, Polynesian. Should you grow

weary of the exotic, Hob Nob Hill in central San Diego will feed you home-style American cooking complete with homemade baked goods.

But back to racquetball and improving your game. Most San Diego Clubs are equipped with saunas, jacuzzi and weight rooms and many provide child care. Generally, they are open 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. with court fees ranging from \$2.50 to \$5.00 per hour. The best spots to watch the pros in action are George Brown's racquetball spas in Kearny Mesa and on Balboa Avenue. Charlie Brumfield gravitates towards Kearny Mesa, while Marty Hogan plays at Balboa. Davey Bledsoe plays at the Atlas Health Club.

Of course, racquetball isn't the only game in town. The Cabrillo Athletic Club has one of the few paddleball courts in the area. There are countless tennis clubs, almost 70 golf courses and a race track (summer only).

San Diego has a little something for everyone. But if you're looking for a racquetball vacation spot, look no further. San Diego is the mecca of racquetball. ■

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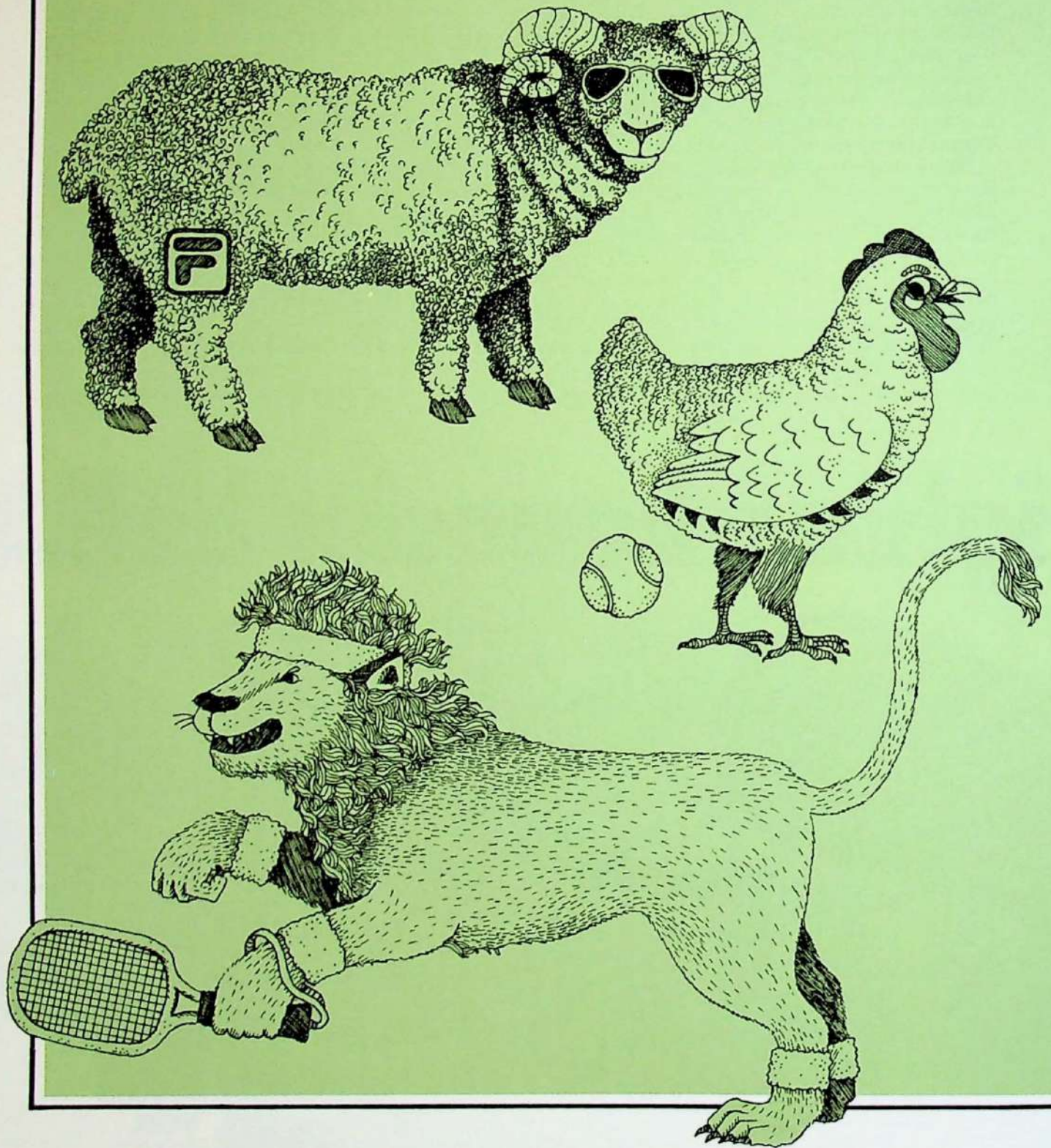
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Santa Ana,
Calif. 92704

RACQUET BESTIARY

by A. DaRif





At a Glance

Here's Johnny!

Thinking of trying to set the racquetball marathon record? Or perhaps you can do more than 3,000 one-armed pushups. Before you get your heart set on a spot in the Guinness Book of Records, check out the *Status Book* by Gary Blake. You'll learn just what you have to do to get that record published. And other things too like how to race in the Indianapolis 500, how to have an audience with the Pope, how to obtain a listing in the social register and perhaps most difficult of all, how to appear on the Tonight Show.



Frank Bolle © 1979

Wet Set

Inner Tennis, Zen tennis and now bathroom tennis. According to 32 year-old tennis pro Alan Boltin, the bathroom is the best place to take the extra time you need during a busy day to work on your game. For his students who include Farrah Fawcett-Majors, Connie Stevens and Priscilla Presley, Boltin has devised a bathroom routine that takes eight minutes per day. It's a system of mental processes to use in the shower to improve court strategy and a series of warmup exercises and stroke techniques to use in the rest of the bathroom. (No mention of how the ball plays on bathroom tile!)

One for the road

What's 26 feet long, 16 feet wide, 10 feet high and comes in 24 pieces? An erector set for overgrown children? Not quite. It's the Sports Illustrated mini racquetball court. This miniature court, approximately half regulation size is completely portable and can be erected without special tools in under four hours. A three foot strip of plexiglass in the center of the back and side walls provides for easy viewing.

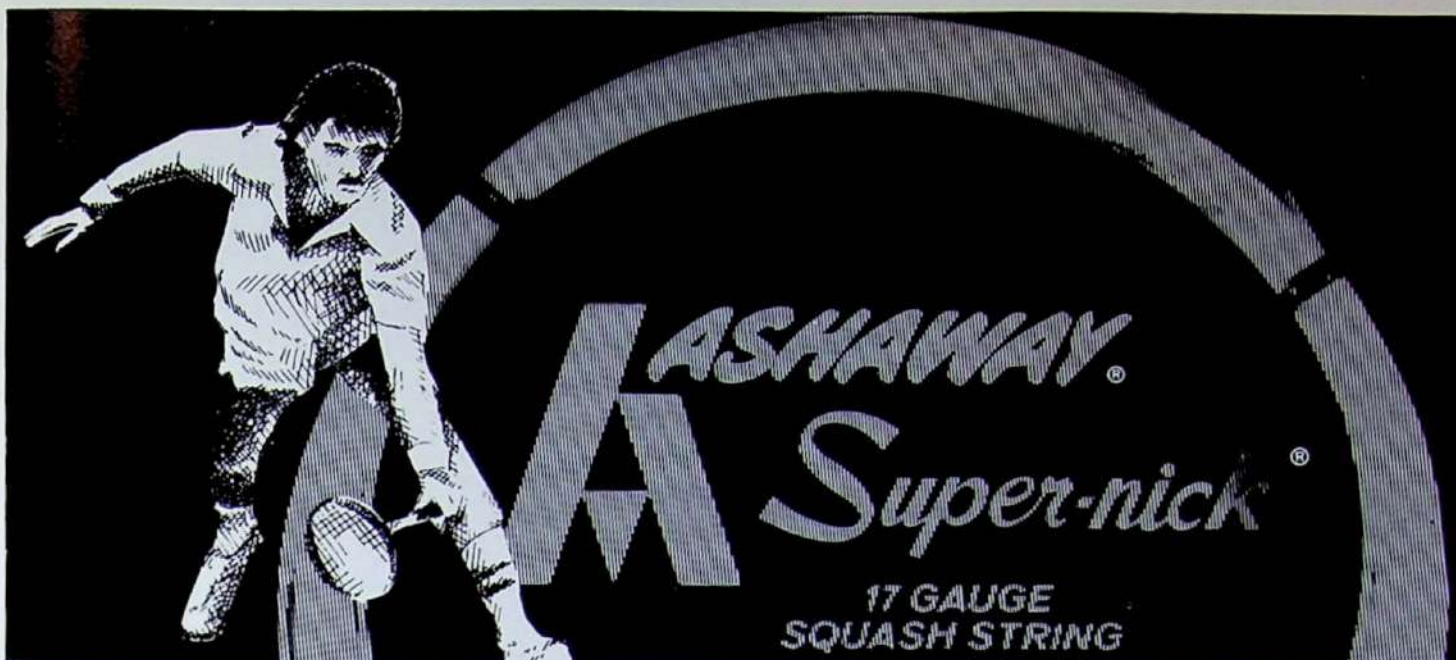
The court, already a minor television personality, has appeared on the Mike Douglas Show.

It's available for rental by contacting Sports Illustrated Court Clubs, 18311 W. 10 Mile Road, Southfield, MI. 48077.

What Goes Up . . .

It could only happen in the Big Apple where real estate is more precious than gold and skyscrapers reach for the heavens. It's The Vertical Club, the world's tallest racquet club. The new facility, brainchild of millionaire, politician Abe Hirschfeld, will be 18 stories high and contain 10 tennis courts (two to a floor). There will also be squash, racquetball, running and health club facilities on the premises.

The irrepressible Hirschfeld says it's not something he expects to make any money on. "I'm more interested in doing something for the city. I can afford it."



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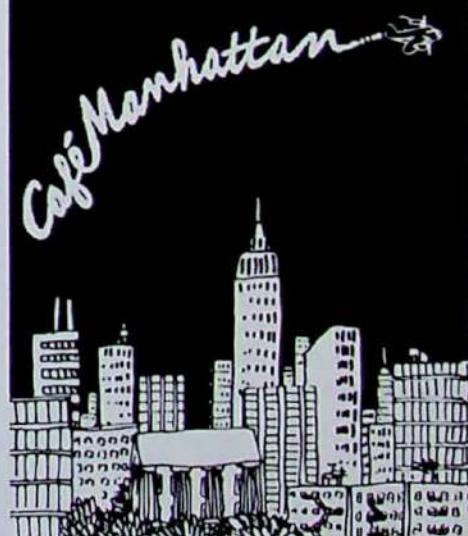


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Tour De Foot

In what must certainly be the most unique running event of the year, the International Sport Summit which will take place March 11, 1979 in Monte-Carlo—A congress and exposition on sport and finance—is sponsoring the Tour De Foot. This race, contested on the famous Grand Prix Race Course of Monaco, is open to everyone. Three first prizes will be awarded—for speed, effort and elegance of gait. Tally Ho.



E = MC²

Save energy and play a racquet sport. According to nutritionists at the University of Illinois, America is 2.3 billion pounds overweight! The energy saved by dieting to reach optimal weight would be equivalent to 1.3 billion gallons of gasoline or more than enough energy to supply the annual residential electrical demands of Boston, Chicago, San Francisco and Washington.

Send short bits

Submit short bits for our Gallery section and make \$15 or more. They should be interesting, humorous or entertaining.

Pearl of the Atlantic

The Portugese isle of Madiera is a spectacular meld of lush vegetation, majestic mountains and craggy seashore. It's temperate climate and ideal location less than an hour from Lisbon, make it an ideal refuge from the ravages of a cold and wet winter. You can take it easy and enjoy a variegated profusion of flowers unmatched anywhere on earth or indulge in a full range of sporting activities.

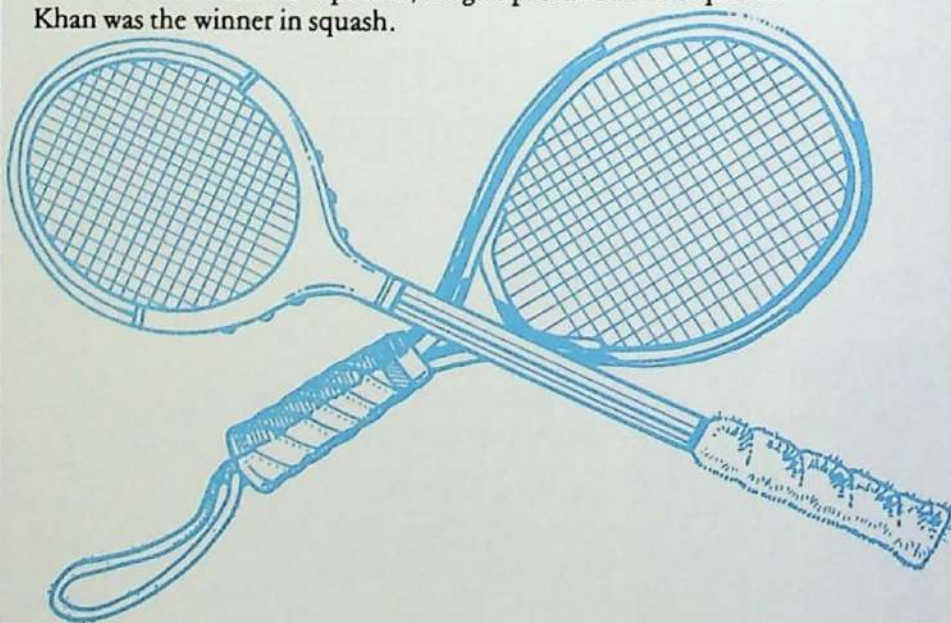
The Madiera Palacio, a five star hotel, is one of the centers of racquet activity on the island. It's tennis courts are lit for night play; there's badminton and table tennis along with all the customary water sports.

For more information about the "Pearl of the Atlantic" call your travel agent.

Classic Confrontation

It was the classic confrontation—the veteran champion versus the rising star, experience versus power. it was a clash between world squash champion Sharif Khan and world racquetball titleholder Marty Hogan—at each others' game.

The exhibition, part of the opening ceremonies for the Ricochet Racquet Club in New Jersey, was a showcase for the tremendous versatility of these two great champions, both of whom are nominees for Racquet Magazine's Athlete of the Year. As expected, Hogan prevailed in racquetball while Khan was the winner in squash.



Racquets:



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And Pilkington offer an unrivalled design service on standard or custom made glass walls.

For further information and illustrated brochure, contact Ray Read, Pilkington Brothers (Canada) Ltd., 101 Richmond Street West, Toronto 1, Ontario. Cables: Pilkho Tor. Telephone: 416 363 7561.



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Ageless Alchemy

The venerable and ageless (70+) Hashim Khan, the most famous squash player of all time, made a rare appearance at New York's Manhattan Squash Club. In a series of exhibitions sponsored by Cruzan Rum, the legendary master regaled overflow crowds with a wide array of spectacular shots. He defeated son, North American Champion Sharif and nephew Mo in one game matches and reaffirmed the old saw, "Winning is not difficult, it's losing that is hardwork."

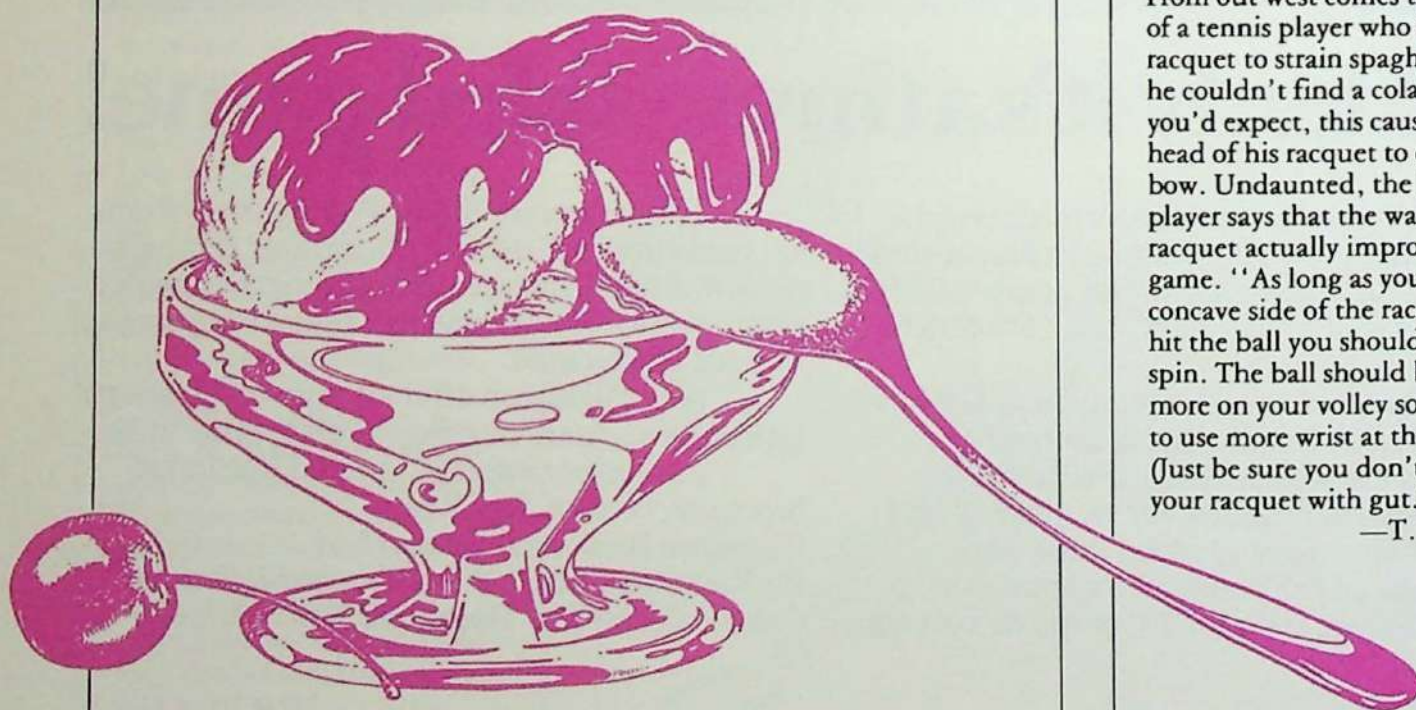
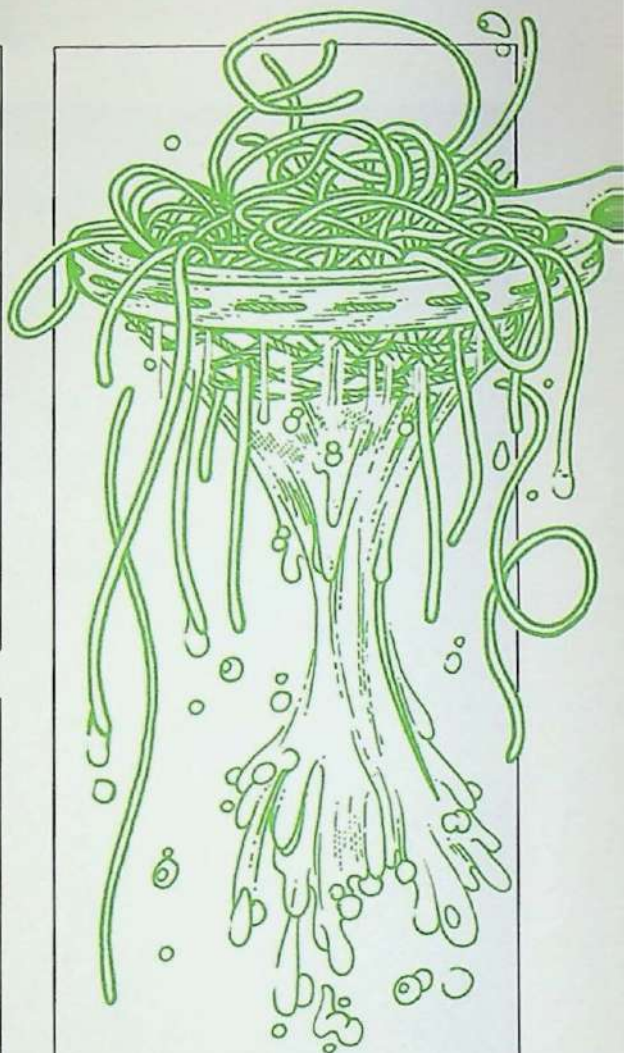
The Weaker Sex?

Two ladies, one from the world of squash racquets and the other from platform tennis invaded the Coors All Pro Racquetball Tour. Hilary Hilton, platform tennis co-champion was defeated in the first round but perennial squash champion Heather McKay, with virtually no racquetball experience, made it all the way to the finals. Said her conqueror, former Denver Bronco, Bob McNamara, "Anyone who plays against that woman plays to win. You have to—she's that good."

How Sweet It Is

Worried about all those Big Macs and Whoppers? Can't resist chocolate cake and ice cream? Well despair not, you have company. According to food authority Frances Sheridan Goulart in *Eating to Win*, many world class athletes share your penchant for the nutritionally forbidden.

A sampling would include: Wimbledon Champion Martina Navratilova's yen for strawberry milk shakes . . . Billie Jean King's hi-protein, hi-carbohydrate diet, though she's enjoy her meals more with ten chocolate bars and a gallon of ice cream, is sweet on sweet potato pie . . . Chris Evert eats sensibly with an attachment to honey . . . As you'd expect jockey Willie Shoemaker eats like a horse . . . And top lady golfer Carol Mann thrives on laughter, gentle needling and Brandy Alexanders.



Spaghetti Western

From out west comes the report of a tennis player who used his racquet to strain spaghetti when he couldn't find a colander. As you'd expect, this caused the head of his racquet to curl into a bow. Undaunted, the local player says that the warped racquet actually improves his game. "As long as you use the concave side of the racquet to hit the ball you should get more spin. The ball should be cradled more on your volley so you have to use more wrist at the net." (Just be sure you don't string your racquet with gut.)

—T. McCarthy

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Winners and Losers

PLATFORM TENNIS

Canoe Brook Invitation
Summit, N.J.
October 21-22, 1978

Round of Sixteen. Graebner/Russell d. Caputo/Caputo 6-1, 6-2; Nycum/Ucko d. Burton/Felt 3-6, 7-5, 7-6; Ayres/Mielke d. Moore/T. Smith 7-6, 7-6; Brents/Maier d. Adams/J. Mangan 6-4, 7-6; Kulig/Rowe d. Figlar/R. Smith 4-6, 6-2, 6-3; Baird/Baird d. Kane/McNetney 6-1, 6-1; Griffin/Swift d. McReady/Barrow 6-3, 6-2; FitzGibbon/Irvine d. Hornidge/Mahler 6-2, 7-6.

Quarter Finals. Graebner/Russell d. Nycum/Ucko 6-3, 6-3; Brents/Maier d. Ayres/Mielke 7-5, 6-4; Baird/Baird d. Kulig/Rowe 6-3, 6-2; FitzGibbon/Irvine d. Griffin/Swift 6-2, 6-0.

Semi Finals. Brents/Maier d. Graebner/Russell 6-3, 6-0; FitzGibbon/Irvine d. Baird/Baird 7-5, 7-5.

Finals. FitzGibbon/Irvine d. Brents/Maier 6-2, 6-1, 6-4.

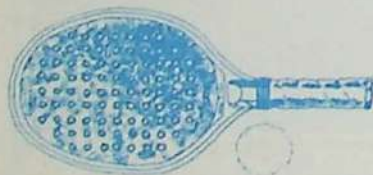
Passport Scotch Grand Prix
Chicago, Illinois
November 11-12, 1978

Round of Sixteen. Graebner/Russell d. Nycum/Ucko 6-1, 6-2; Adams/Mangan d. Owen/Weed 6-2, 6-1; Kane/Saacke d. Kulig/Rowe 6-1, 6-2; Ayres/Mielke d. Moore/Smith 6-2, 6-1; Mahler/Steele d. Ducey/Symington 6-3, 6-4; Brents/Maier d. Edwards/Tully 7-5, 7-5; Burton/Felt d. Brownlow/Rogers 7-5, 4-6, 6-3; Baird/Baird d. Griffin/Swift 7-5, 6-1.

Quarter Finals. Graebner/Russell d. Adams/Mangan 7-5, 6-0; Ayres/Mielke d. Kane/Saacke 6-4, 6-3; Brents/Maier d. Mahler/Steele 6-3, 6-2; Baird/Baird d. Burton/Felt 6-0, 6-3.

Semi Finals. Graebner/Russell d. Ayres/Mielke 6-0, 6-2; Baird/Baird d. Brents/Maier 6-1, 7-5.

Finals. Graebner/Russell d. Baird/Baird 3-6, 6-4, 6-1, 3-6, 7-5.

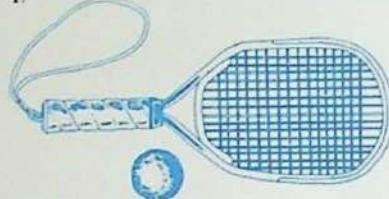


RACQUETBALL

Leach Racquetball Classic
Detroit, Michigan
October 25-29, 1978

Round of Thirty-two. Hogan d. Campbell 21-9, 21-16; Stephens d. Morrow 21-19, 21-19; Meyers d. Zuckerman 21-18, 21-11; McCoy d. Peck 21-17, 14-21, 11-0; Yellen d. Stafford 21-9, 18-21, 11-10; Mondry d. Keeley 21-10, 21-19; Ikier d. Thomas (forfeit) Koltun d. McDowell 21-10, 18-21, 11-3; Hilecher d.

Schmidtke 21-12, 21-7; Wirkus d. Jones (forfeit); Bledsoe d. Myers 21-16, 21-19; Zeitman d. Serot 21-19, 18-21, 11-6; Dern d. Strandemo 14-21, 21-11, 11-5; Fleetwood d. Lynch 21-8, 21-8; Chase d. Bowman 16-21, 21-14, 11-8; Wagner d. Rish 19-21, 21-18, 11-1.



Round of Sixteen. Yellen d. Mondry 20-21, 21-2, 11-6; Koltun d. Ikier 15-21, 21-13, 11-0; Hilecher d. Wirkus 21-10, 21-9; Bledsoe d. Zeitman 21-15, 21-17; Fleetwood d. Dern 21-8, 21-14; Wagner d. Chase 21-6, 21-14; Hogan d. Stephens 21-9, 21-11; McCoy d. Meyers 21-7, 21-9.

Quarter Finals. Yellen d. Koltun 21-16, 21-15; Bledsoe d. Hilecher 21-3, 20-21, 11-10; Wagner d. Fleetwood 21-15, 21-9; Hogan d. McCoy 21-19, 21-6.

Semi Finals. Wagner d. Bledsoe 16-21, 21-4, 11-5; Hogan d. Yellen 21-9, 21-16.

Finals. Hogan d. Wagner 21-12, 21-19.

Leach Racquetball Classic (Women's)
Detroit, Michigan
October 25-29, 1978

Round of Sixteen. Sauser d. Hoff 21-12, 21-9; Steding d. Duggan 21-12, 21-13; Marriott d. Davis 21-12, 21-16; Green d. Williams 21-19, 21-16; Matthews d. Walton 21-16, 21-11; Greer d. Harding 21-15, 20-21, 11-5; Wright d. Thompson 21-6, 21-10; McDonald d. Carow 21-20, 21-4.

Quarter Finals. Wright d. McDonald 21-12, 21-10; Sauser d. Steding 21-17, 21-9; Green d. Marriott 21-10, 21-6; Greer d. Matthews 21-10, 21-13.

Semi Finals. Wright d. Sauser 21-5, 21-7; Greer d. Green 13-21, 21-11, 11-4.

Finals. Wright d. Greer 21-12, 21-8.

Seamco Racquetball Classic
Port Washington, New York
November 15-19, 1978

Round of Thirty-two. Hogan d. Capitaneli 21-13, 21-4; Zuckerman d. Thomas 15-21, 21-16, 11-10; Peck d. McDowell 21-9, 21-7; Yellen d. Kwartler 21-11, 21-14; Bledsoe d. Niederhoffer default; Serot d. Meyers 21-10, 21-18; Morrow d. Schmidtke 21-8, 21-4; McCoy d. Hawkins 21-8, 21-4; Hilecher d. Mondry 21-15, 21-17; Chase d. Deuster 21-18, 21-6; Fleetwood d. Stevens 21-9, 21-16; Koltun d. Myers 21-10, 15-21, 11-6; Strandemo d. Schmitt 21-8, 21-8; Keeley d. Dern 21-15, 11-21, 11-6; Campbell d. Zeitman 21-14, 21-19; Wagner d. Ikier 21-16, 21-9.

Round of Sixteen. Hogan d. Zuckerman 21-6, 21-11; Yellen d. Peck 21-9, 21-13; Bledsoe d. Serot 21-11, 21-14; McCoy d. Morrow 21-14, 21-15; Hilecher d. Chase 20-21, 21-14, 11-6; Fleetwood d. Koltun 21-10, 7-21, 11-7; Strandemo d. Keeley 21-8, 17-21, 11-1; Wagner d. Campbell 21-9, 21-11.

Quarter Finals. Hogan d. Yellen 21-15, 17-21, 11-5; McCoy d. Bledsoe 21-17, 19-21, 11-7; Hilecher d. Fleetwood 16-21, 21-11, 11-6; Wagner d. Strandemo 10-21, 21-19, 11-4.

Semi Finals. Hogan d. McCoy 21-13, 21-20; Hilecher d. Wagner 21-12, 15-21, 11-3.

Finals. Hogan d. Hilecher 21-11, 21-14.

Seamco Racquetball Classic (Women's)
Port Washington, New York
November 15-19, 1978

Round of Sixteen. Wright d. Mathews 21-4, 21-3; Walton d. Moore 21-19, 16-21, 11-9; McDonald d. Weisbach 21-6, 21-16; Hoff d. Steding 21-11, 19-21, 11-9; Williams d. Marriott 21-11, 21-10; Greer d. Dugan 21-10, 21-9; Sauser d. Green 21-10, 5-21, 11-6; Harding d. Schmidt 21-20, 21-9.

Quarter Finals. Wright d. Walton 21-13, 21-8; Hoff d. McDonald 15-21, 21-15, 11-10; Greer d. Williams 21-18, 21-13; Sauser d. Harding 21-19, 12-21, 11-9.

Semi Finals. Wright d. Hoff 21-6, 21-6; Greer d. Sauser 21-13, 21-16.

Finals. Wright d. Greer 21-13, 21-17.

SQUASH



MAAA Invitational
Montreal, Canada
November 3-5, 1978

Round of Sixteen. S. Khan d. Lennard 3-1; Satterthwaite d. McCrury 3-0; A. Khan d. Briggs 3-1; Caldwell d. Talbert 3-0; Andruss d. Desaulniers (default); Mohtadi d. G. Khan 3-0; M. Khan d. Anderson 3-2; Goldstein d. C. Khan 3-0.

Quarter Finals. S. Khan d. Satterthwaite 11-15, 15-12, 15-6, 15-10; Caldwell d. A. Khan 15-6, 15-10, 7-15, 15-6; Andruss d. Mohtadi 15-5, 15-11, 15-10; Goldstein d. M. Khan 15-8, 15-10, 15-4.

Semi Finals. S. Khan d. Caldwell 15-10, 15-9, 15-13; Goldstein d. Andruss 15-9, 15-11, 15-13.

Finals. Goldstein d. S. Khan 15-12, 2-15, 12-15, 15-12, 15-7.

Boston Open
Boston, Massachusetts
November 9-12, 1978

Round of Sixteen. S. Khan d. Mateer 15-8, 15-3, 15-10; Anderson d. Andruss 14-16, 15-12, 15-6, 11-15, 15-9; Sanchez d. G. Khan 15-6, 15-9, 11-15, 15-9; Mohtadi d. M. Khan 15-12, 15-7, 4-15, 15-10; Caldwell d. Shaw 15-9, 10-15, 15-7, 15-11; Ratnac d. MacRury 15-4, 15-5, 15-10; A. Khan d. Satterthwaite 15-9, 3-15, 15-8, 12-15, 15-11; Goldstein d. Hilbert 15-11, 15-7, 15-6.

Quarter Finals. Anderson d. S. Khan 15-13, 6-15, 15-13, 18-15; Sanchez d. Mohtadi 15-6, 15-9, 11-15, 15-9; Caldwell d. Ratnac 15-6, 15-10, 15-11; Goldstein d. A. Khan 15-11, 15-10, 17-15.

Semi Finals. Anderson d. Sanchez 15-12, 15-11, 15-9; Caldwell d. Goldstein 15-9, 15-4, 15-5.

Finals. Caldwell d. Anderson 15-12, 15-8, 15-6.





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