

When can we see your pictures?

OCTOBER TIMLOG ---- SPECIAL TENNIS EDITION

"40-15", "I've got it...I've...got...it....you take it!", "I could have won if only I..", "Could you help me with my backhand?" These are the voices of Timlo campers. Nothing said was really new, but then conversations on the tennis court are pretty much the same no matter where you are. What was different is: the extra effort, planning, and scheduling required in satisfying so many tennis-hungry campers, the campers' skills developing almost daily, and their smiles as they proudly displayed their improved game to even prouder parents on Visiting Day; the tenacious attitudes of our invitational tournament players as they moved up to the quarter-finals, semi-finals, and finals; the tennis courts and layout itself -- three brand new latex-surfaced tournament-caliber upper courts and the complete resealing of the very fine six lower courts. All this contributed to an outstanding tennis season at Camp Timlo.

The tennis program at Camp Timlo is instruction-oriented; structured to ensure the learning of tennis for all players on their individual levels. While we are most concerned with teaching the basic skills and strokes (forehand, backhand, serve, return of serve, lob, smash, volley, and half-volley), we like to think that we stress the fun of playing tennis first, by developing happy, better players rather than mechanical-playing "tennis machines". The program involves, more specifically, both small groups and individual lessons given by the tennis director and his assistants -- all trained in giving consistent and competent "economy-of-motion" tennis instruction. In addition, many opportunities are available for playing games, sets, intra- and inter-camp tournaments, as well as the invitationals (reserved, of course, for our very best players). Another enjoyable part of the program was the rallying and informal sets played during the afternoon optional periods. Lastly, an innovative program was added this past season -- World Team Tennis -- an evening tournament activity involving both Camp Timlo and Pine Log Camp, as well as their respective counsellors and CIT's-TIC's.

What memories will I have to make me smile through the all-too-fast-approaching winter? The Juniors, led by Chris David and Jason Silver, our outstanding tournament players. Marc Weiss, Alan Caldwell, and Giorgio Pietrangeli as other fine young players. Then we saw David Rosenberg, Chris Mayer, Blair Weinberg, and Eric Scherr as they duelled each other in tennis games during their instructional periods. Who can ever forget their racquet-handling and serving competitions? And when Cabin 1 & 2's Scott Dumas and Tim Galle led their respective teams of young Juniors during the running relay and racquet-handling races, laughter and fun filled the courts of Timlo. Francisco Benzo, Adam Bouloukos, Chris Clark, and Chris DiJulio seemed to delight in bouncing forehands off the backs and heads of our patient instructors, and Graham Lewis and Mike Morris were happiest when they were practicing, with great concentration, their erratic tosses for the serve. What fun we all had working and playing with Jeff Morris, Jud Carusone, Geoff Brunner, Andres Estrada, Erich Ritter, and Jeff Freeman. Yes, sir...the Juniors really had a ball on the tennis courts and while many were not quite ready for the tennis skills that require a physical maturity somewhat beyond their years, it was gratifying to lay the groundwork for these early years in providing the exercises and hand-to-eye motor coordination drills preparatory for these skills simultaneously adding to their fun experiences with games and contests.

If someone were to ask, "Which group showed the most enthusiasm in the tennis program?", it would be difficult to decide, but I would have to give the edge to the Intermediates; that is, the boys from Cabins 4, 5, 6, and 7. And there were some outstanding tennis players among this group, led by John Fetterolf, Neil Ingerman, Carl Craane, Ken Terzi, Rodney Baron, David Maestre, and Jeff Schlegel. These boys were the "big guns" in most of our tournaments. Other boys who showed a great deal of enthusiasm were Leopoldo Travieso (Most Improved Intermediate), Alejandro and Roberto Vernet, Jose Valdes, and Joaquin Gabaldon. David Mejia, our tennis instructor from Colombia, contributed greatly to the instructional program with this group through his knowledge of Spanish and his extraordinary patience. It was always a pleasure to see the eager faces of Jeff Healion, Bob Tull, Richard Unger, Charles Johnson, Craig Nardi, and Joe Paolillo. They never seemed to get tired of playing. Other boys who were regular "customers" at the Timlo courts were Ugo Brachetti, Chris Caramanico, Kevin Dalbert, Tony DiJulio, William Hattler, Morgan Shevett, and Aaron Kurtzman. Many of these boys got involved in the World Team Tennis evening tournaments. Who can forget Jeff Benco endlessly hitting practice serves -- after serve, after serve, after serve? Or Gregor Wolf and Steven David taking up to three hours of tennis instruction a day and then playing and rallying after that? Or John Cook and David Hunt blasting away together (or with a couple of young Pine Loggers) during the afternoon optional periods? Or Charles Johnson, Mark Lewis, and Matt Scott showing more and more interest later in the season? And we even had a few "full-time sailors" who spent a few hours on the courts -- Jimmy Deutsch, Andy Kittross, Mike Dobbs, and E.J. and Gordon McNeeney. Chris Freeman showed much improvement during the season, as did John Carusone, Neil McGreevy, John Scott, and Steve "Waterskier" Freeman. Brian Gorry played a great deal during his stay and showed much improvement. Yes, this group certainly was an active one and, I must add, a highly competitive one -- one that helped Timlo-Pine Log compile an astounding tournament record of 133 wins and 35 losses against such formidable

opponents as The Lake George Racquet Club, Camp Algonquin, Echo Lake Camp, Camp Walden, and others. We of the tennis staff were especially proud of the Intermediates' participation and accomplishments.

The largest group, both in numbers and size, are the Seniors, and they were something to behold! Our best players were Tom Lapham (Best Senior), Lincoln Sokolski (Second Best), Mark Agresti (a very fine strong player with great potential), Ken DiGia (great determination), Marc Baron, Charles Bythewood, Alex Weiss (Most Improved Senior), Sergio Llopis, Enrique and Guillermo "Lurch" Hernandez, and Doug Zurn. While the above group is a large one, they were even greater in determination and heart during the many tournaments, as well as their being very active in playing tennis. It is hard to single out one or two individuals in the next grouping because these boys showed particular interest and/or improvement in the tennis program and made our teaching efforts all the more rewarding. They are Stratton and Ted Bouloukos, Sergio "All-The-Time" Danguillecourt, Fernando Restrepo, Luis Garcia, Abrahan Hasbun, Ed Farrell, Benoit Koutny, Richard Bloom, Bill Reed, and Eddie Winder. They really worked at learning, and their playing showed it. Other boys who came consistently were Jose Urdanetta, Philippe Cheyette, Jose Arrese, David Benco, Gerardo Hernandez, David Kesel, David Fitting, Francois Mariotti, Chris Seidl, Jeff Guenther, Andres "Diablo" Hernandez, Gary Swilling, and Bill Terzi. Many of the last group showed a more-than-passing interest in tennis, even though they specialized in either sailing or waterskiing. These included Randy Canepa, Richard Dalbert, Matt Scherr, Alexander Yvars, Glenn Rechler, Diego Cabal, Don Currie, Jeff "Popeye" Gerwin, Robert Philipps, Reggie "The Ski" Freeman, and Jay "Roland" Brussels. As you can see, the Seniors were really "with it" tennis-wise. We look forward to a really fantastic year with them again in '77.

The last division in camp are the CIT's and they were a fine group of guys. I want to particularly thank Bob DiGia for his outstanding contribution to the entire program in the roles of assistant teacher, general helper and, of course, outstanding player. He showed "grace under pressure" in so many of his matches which he decided by his strength of character and determination. Other very good players in this group were Hernan Maestre, Mike Coster, Greg Johnson, and Andy Sokolski. Sam Friedman and Bob Sorensen became almost everyday visitors at the courts and both showed marked improvement. We didn't see much of Dave Hubbell and John DeHoust but we know they were very busy elsewhere. Everyone seemed to agree that the CIT's were an exceptional group of young men.

While it is a truism that children "make" a camp, I would have to add that there are many other things that help. One of these is leadership and direction, and I'm happy to say that the tennis staff was particularly instrumental in making the Timlo courts such an alive place. We had an extremely patient young staff and I would like to thank Valorie Dumas for her extra effort and for the smile and care that she showed to all the campers. Craig "Yale-Man" Nichols showed talent and character far beyond his years and was in invaluable assistant, as was David Mejia, Colombia's Latin gift to Timlo (and Pine Log, if you ask the girls). David was very helpful, particularly with the Spanish-speaking campers, and showed a steadfastness that was an integral part of our program. Sally Neal was a fine instructress who also helped out in the organization of the tennis tournaments and the special coaching of the Pine Log tennis teams. Her patience (and ever-red nose) speak of the long hours she spent helping campers become better players. Jim Clark was a favorite instructor of many of the campers and his smile and patience added much to their interest in tennis. A special thanks to Bob Sisk who helped us on a part-time basis, and Tim Jones who worked the two-week period of the tennis clinic and showed extraordinary tennis-teaching finesse in a short period of time. Tennis staff, you were exceptional!. Thank you!!

These, then, are the things that made the tennis program so successful. They are the things that I will remember through the coming winter. While our excellent tournament record (133 wins, 35 losses) is something we are all proud of, we of the tennis staff are far more proud of the day-by-day improvement, the tremendous participation, the fun and enjoyment provided, and the general enthusiasm and success that seemed to permeate the tennis-court atmosphere and add to the overall fine spirit of Camp Timlo. We are happy to have been a part of it and look forward to seeing everyone again in the 1977 season. Until then, have a happy and healthy year.

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WRITTEN BY Bruce Silver
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