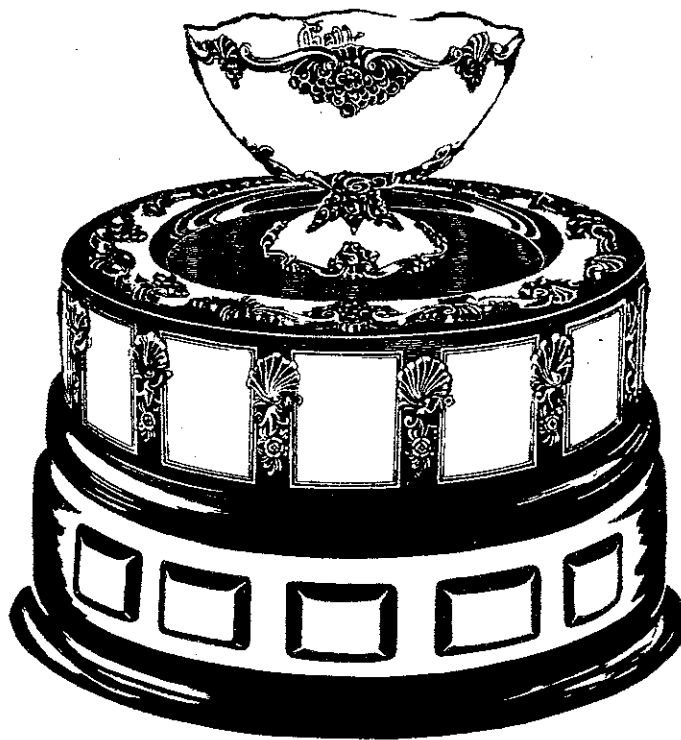


TOP PLAYERS ANSWER CALL FOR DAVIS CUP QUEST



By **DON LAWRENCE**
Melbourne Herald

In a changing world the Davis Cup is an enduring phenomenon which has brought more nations together in a spirit of goodwill than almost any other international sporting event.

But the past five or six years have been critical ones for the old trophy and the people who have battled to possess it since Dwight D. Davis offered it to the tennis world way back in 1900.

In a manner of speaking the bottom fell out of the Davis Cup and it is only this year that it has been put back.

It is not difficult to understand why Davis Cup tennis slipped off its high pedestal or why it is now back on it again.

It can all be summed up in one word "professionalism".

When the world's top amateurs fled the amateur ranks in their droves to turn their racquet arms into their daily bread they forgot about the poor old Davis Cup.

Not that their national pride had really waned but they needed something to fill the void in their stomachs.

If professional tennis could give it to them, then pro. tennis it would be.

Where Davis Cup selection had once been the pinnacle for which they aimed the chase after the almighty dollar became more important.

Nobody blamed them for cashing their ability, but it has taken this long for tennis to find a way back for them.

As professionals they could not play Davis Cup tennis and so the way was opened for lesser players to earn representative selection, but the tennis public soon showed it was not happy to be served with the second best.

They stayed away from Davis Cup tennis in their thousands.

But now the wheel has turned full cycle.

Professionals are eligible to play for their country and the old Davis Cup is chasing those balmy days of long ago.

For Australia the change of heart is certain to bring a dramatic upswing in our tennis fortunes and a more welcome upswing in our tennis coffers.

One is complementary to the other, of course, but for years

now the leaders of the game in this country have been really concerned over the state of Australian tennis and where it was heading.

Its course was firmly set downhill.

Until now there has not been a Cup match in Australia since 1968 and when one realises that the game here has been promoted and financed from Davis Cup tennis for more than 30 years one can readily understand the concern of the game's administrators.

Gad, sir. The mighty Lawn Tennis Association of Australia almost went bankrupt!

This embarrassing state of impecuniosity came while no less than 20 of our top players were not eligible to play for Australia, and what is more, could not play on Association affiliated courts.

The Lavers, Rosewalls, Newcombes and Andersons of this world could only look on as the country which had nourished their tennis skills slipped into obscurity as a Davis Cup nation.

It hurt them to watch it happen and it hurt Australian tennis that it did happen.

And it speaks volumes for their loyalty that they have answered the call sent out so clearly by the L.T.A.A.'s fighting, energetic president, Wayne Reid and Davis Cup captain, Neale Fraser, to come back.

This year's Australian Davis Cup side is a flashback but at the same time a look into the future.

If these players can bring the Davis Cup back to Australia again they will be heroes.

Their reward will not be counted in dollars, for there is literally nothing in it for any of them.

It could be true that it is costing them money to play.

But they are all sportsmen to their fingertips and the satisfaction of bringing the old trophy back "home" again will be all the thanks they need.

Because it will open a new, profitable era in Australian tennis.

AUSTRALIA GATHERS ITS FORCES

Australia has mustered its forces for the final phase of its campaign to recapture the Davis Cup.

Rod Laver and Ken Rosewall, key players for Australia in their amateur days, made themselves available for selection and

with John Newcombe, Mal Anderson, Colin Dibley, Ross Case, Geoff Masters and Bob Giltinan make up the formidable squad that Neale Fraser, as captain, will have for this semi-final against Czechoslovakia at Kooyong. This is how tennis writers from Melbourne papers see them:

ROD LAVER

Rod Laver is laconic and modest, industrious and disciplined, serious about his lawn tennis, but wryly funny about it, too, once you stop writing about him as lacking in charisma and start listening to his jokes.

That's the portrait of Laver as seen by one of the world's most distinguished tennis writers, David Gray, of The Guardian, London.

It's a description that so aptly sums up this little man who is known in the trade as "Rocket Rod".

Winner of two Grand Slams, four Wimbledon championships, the only tennis player to win more than a million dollars . . . why go on. Everyone knows his record.

He can quite justly lay claim to a share in the title of one of the greatest players in the history of the game.

Yet many sports fans still refuse to recognise him as a sports hero. Somehow he lacks the majestic aura of say golf's Arnold Palmer or the sex appeal of John Newcombe or more latterly Sweden's Bjorn Borg.

But even though he fails to capture the screaming, adoring masses (a fact for which maybe Laver is eternally grateful) his brand of tennis commands the respect and admiration of players and public alike.

On court, the 5 ft. 8½ in. Queensland left-hander combines one of the strongest arms in the business with a devastating top-spin shot.

He has a killer instinct and a seriousness of play that makes him one of the toughest competitors in world tennis.

A David among the Goliaths!

His reign in tennis has been a long one — firstly in the amateur game, then as a professional. Wimbledon champion in 1961 and 1962 before turning pro and then champion again in 1968 and 1969 when the game was thrown open to all.

He's a quiet, dedicated man; a man who's seldom if ever outspoken to the press and one whose simple reaction when asked if he knew he had passed the million dollar mark in prize money was, "Is that right? I haven't been keeping a close check."

Laver, 35, is the latest "recruit" to the 1973 Australian Davis Cup team — he last played for his country in 1962. His decision to join John Newcombe, Ken Rosewall, Mal Anderson and Co was a thrill to Cup captain Neale Fraser.

"Laver's decision is great for Australian tennis. It has given the team so much more depth," Fraser said.

It's costing Laver money to make himself available for the team (he gave up a coaching contract at U.S. tennis camps to come home) and he has not been guaranteed a game by Fraser.

Still, Laver believes the sacrifice is worth it if he can assist to bring the Cup back to Australia.

Peter Stone
"The Age", Melbourne.



ROD LAVER, perhaps the most accomplished left-hander the game has known . . . in ability and stroke technique.



CZECHOSLOVAKIAN TEAM which won its way through European Zone. From left: A. Bolardt (Manager), Jan Kodes, Frantisek Pala, Jiri Hrebec and Jan Kukal. Although he partnered Kodes in earlier matches, Kukal will not be playing in this semi-final, the new member of the team being Vladimir Zednik.

PLAYERS TO REPRESENT CZECHOSLOVAKIA

By GRAEME KELLY

of The Australian

Czechoslovakia, winners of European Zone B of the 1973 Davis Cup competition will be represented in the semi-final against Australia at Kooyong by Jan Kodes, Frantisek Pala, Jiri Hrebec and Vladimir Zednic, with A. Bolardt as captain.

It is a team which must inevitably present Australia with a stern task, spear-headed as it is by Kodes, current Wimbledon champion and runner-up to John Newcombe at Forest Hills.

JAN KODES Born Prague 1/3/46.

A graduate in economics from Prague University, Jan Kodes is the man, who always told himself he could not play on grass.

In fact at one stage he scornfully dismissed it as being suitable, "for cows and footballers . . . not tennis players".

But despite his aversion to grass, Jan Kodes needs little introduction to tennis fans anywhere in the world these days.

Application and dedication have helped push the fair-haired Kodes into the forefront of world tennis in recent years.

In fact, 1973 has been great for Kodes.

He defeated Russia's Alex Metrevelli, 6-1, 9-8, 6-3, in the Wimbledon final.

Although the impact of his Wimbledon victory was depreciated by the absence of most of the star players he substantiated his form by reaching the United States final.

Australia's John Newcombe — one of the opponents for Kodes in the Davis Cup semi-final — beat him 6-4, 1-6, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 for the championship.

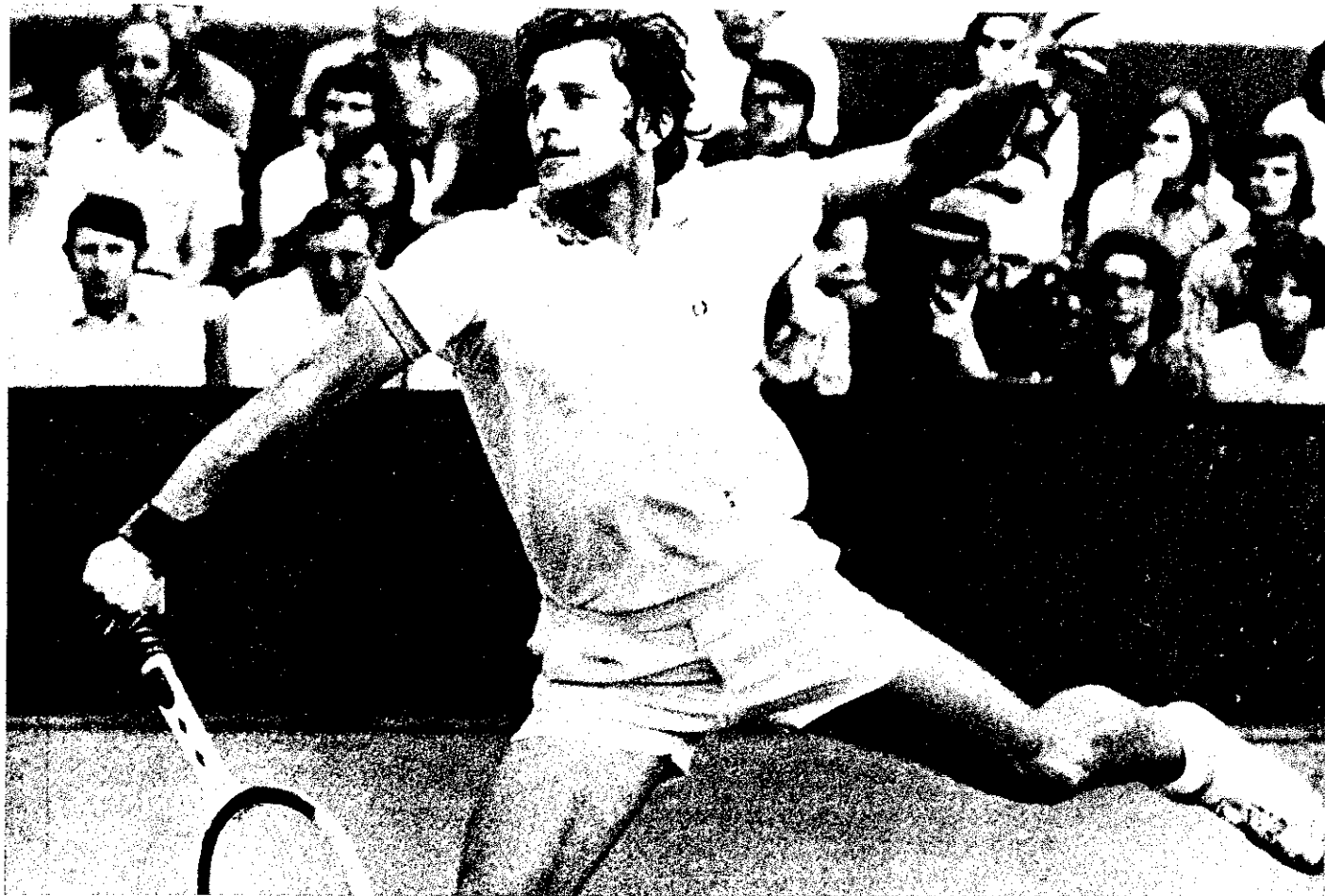
Kodes first started making a real impact on the tennis world when he won the French Open and reached the final of the Italian championships in 1970.

He continued his progress into prominence in 1971.

That year he won the French Open and was runner-up to Stan Smith in the United States championship after upsetting Newcombe and Arthur Ashe on his way to the final.

In 1972, Kodes reached the Wimbledon semi-finals — only to be beaten again by Smith — and finished fourth in the Commercial Union's grand prix.

Kodes will be carrying the brunt of Czechoslovakia's Cup Challenge, but he relishes pressure and can be relied upon to really push his Australian opponents.



JAN KODES, pressing in for a low backhand volley.

JIRI HREBEC

Born Prague 19/9/50.

The tall, volatile Hrebec is the youngest member of the Czechoslovakian Davis Cup team.

A student Hrebec was a most promising junior and in 1969 was ranked fourth on the under-21 world lists.

However, he has found the transition to senior ranks difficult.

Hrebec, who was ranked equal fourth in Czechoslovakia last year, is playing Davis Cup tennis for the first time this year.

He did reasonably well in the Grand Prix in 1972 . . . finishing 41st with a total of 33 points from nine tournaments.

Hrebec came to the attention of Australian tennis followers this year when he defeated veteran Frank Sedgman in the first round of Wimbledon.

He won impressively, 6-0, 6-4, 7-5.

However, he was beaten, 6-1, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4, by English professional Roger Taylor in the second round of the tournament.

Hrebec, who was in trouble during the U.S. hardcourts for racket hurling, is a colorful character and is sure to prove entertaining.

JIRI HREBEC shows great style with this low backhand volley.



VLADIMIR ZEDNIK is all concentration as he prepares for this backhand.



FRANTISEK PALA

Born Prague 28/3/44.

A left-hander Pala is a chemical engineer when not occupied on the world's tennis courts.

This is his third year as a Czech Davis Cup player.

Pala enjoyed some success last year when he finished 21st in the Commercial Union Grand Prix with a total of 85 points from 14 tournaments.

He was also runner-up to Ilie Nastase in the Madrid Melia and at Monte Carlo, as well as being Czechoslovakia's No. 2 Davis Cup player.

Possibly his best win for Czechoslovakia was in last year's European Zone, Section B final of the Davis Cup.

In the final Pala kept Czechoslovakia's hopes alive on the first day by defeating Manuel Orantes 7-5, 6-4, 0-6, 5-7, 6-4.

Despite his efforts Czechoslovakia lost that match 3-2.

VLADIMIR ZEDNIK

Born Prague 1/2/47.

A mechanic the 26-year-old Vladimir Zednik is renowned for his blistering service and general all-court power.

Standing 6 ft. 4 in. tall and weighing nearly 16 stone he has the build of a wrestler rather than a tennis player.

Zednik toured Australia in the summer of 1970-71 and made quite an impact despite having some difficulty adjusting to grass courts.

He defeated Stan Smith in the final of the Tasmanian championships — his first tournament on grass — in a most memorable performance.

Zednik displayed signs of temperament, however, against Phil Dent in the New South Wales championships later on his tour.

At one stage Umpire Jack Lown walked from the court in disgust at the manners of Zednik and Dent during their encounter.

The match was fiercely contested and Dent finally proved victorious 6-2, 6-4, 6-8, 4-6, 6-1, but the encounter showed Zednik's fighting qualities.

Last year he finished 38th in the Grand Prix with 37 points from 15 tournaments.

Highlight of 1972 for Zednik was his victory in the Indoors Championship at Cleveland, Ohio . . . the site of this year's Davis Cup final.

THE LITTLE MASTER

What a comforting feeling it is to have the elder statesmen of Australian tennis back with us under the same roof.

It has once more given the Australian Davis Cup make-up a sense of security, ridding it of a "whistling in the dark" complex.

Ken Rosewall, as well known to world tennis as the town hall clock, is one of the greats who has come home to lend a helping hand.

And, the return of this 39-year-old tennis wizard to the Davis Cup scene, marks a large dose of nostalgia.

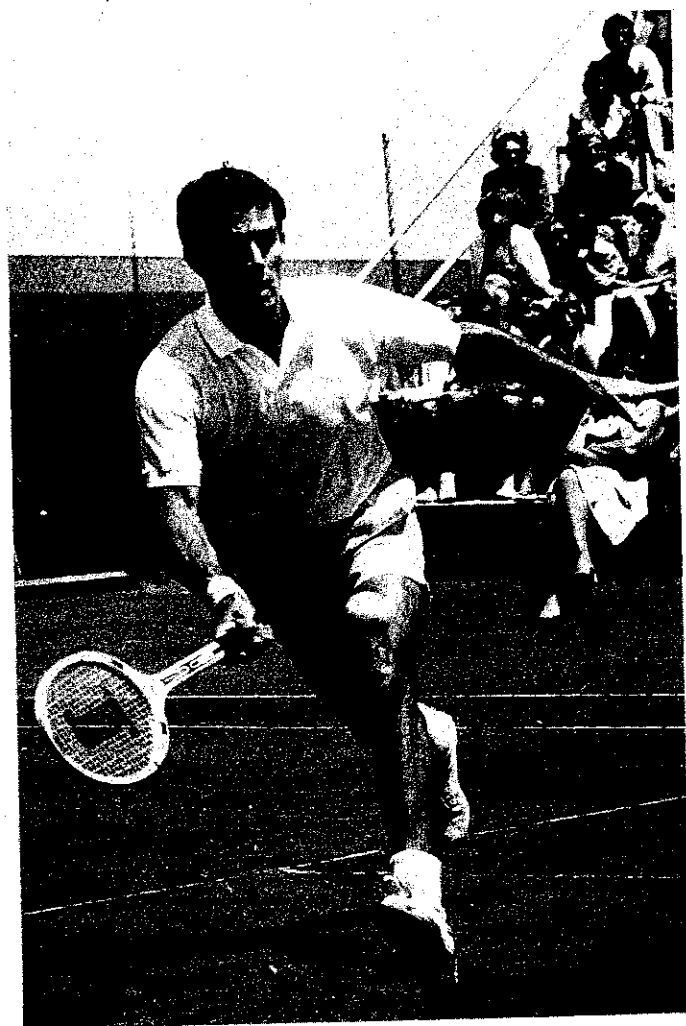
Here he is back at Kooyong in November 1973 ready to be called on to take guard against the Kodes-led Czechs . . . on the same court just 20 years after he took his Cup guard for the first time against the Americans.

Back in 1953 the teenage "whiz kids" Rosewall and Lew Hoad gave Australia a most memorable 3-2 victory against the brilliance of Tony Trabert and Vic Seixas.

Frank Sedgman and Ken McGregor had departed to the professional ranks and the giant-sized Cup defence was thrown on the shoulders of the two kids from NSW.

From that Challenge Round the names of Rosewall and Hoad lit up the world tennis stage; both were to go on to greater heights and both to their fortunes.

Rosewall, plus his boy-hood mate Hoad, played in four Challenge Rounds—with Australia losing only one of them, to America in Sydney in 1954.



KEN ROSEWALL . . . always balanced and always cool but intense in his concentration.

A sidelight of the Rosewall-Hoad background is that they first played each other at the age of 12, with Rosewall winning 6-0, 6-0.

Rosewall took over from Pancho Gonzales as the world professional champion near the end of the fifties and ruled the roost until Rod Laver took his place in 1965.

"Muscles", as he is nicknamed, has won every grand slam event, but not the big one—Wimbledon.

However, the Australian, French and United States titles bear his name.

For 20-odd years he has been one of the game's finest artists. The punishing power game has not been his business; picking it off with sheer elegance plus, his internationally-famous back hand is his forte.

It is quite incredible to think that he is still waging shots with the best of them when you stop to look at the marathon span of his career.

The Wimbledon jinx appears to be about the only hurdle he cannot clear.

It started in 1954 when he was runner-up to Drobny; then came the same fate two years later against countryman Hoad; in 1970 he made it a hat-trick of near misses when he lost in the final to John Newcombe.

However, Rosewall has managed to win the Open of his own country on four occasions—1953, 1955, 1971 and 1972.

Nobody more than Rosewall knows the hard grind of the international circuit and it's interesting to read of his 10 greatest opponents in the 1973 edition of World of Tennis.

He lists: 1—Rod Laver (Aust); 2—Pancho Gonzales (US); 3—Frank Sedgman (Aust); 4—Lew Hoad (Aust); 5—John Newcombe (Aust); 6—Roy Emerson (Aust); 7—Tony Trabert (US); 8—Arthur Ashe (US); 9—Stan Smith (US) and Ilie Nastase (Rum.).

There is some tennis quality in that field!

So Kenneth Robert Rosewall is back at Kooyong and with it, the memories come running back.

—Greg Hobbs
Melbourne Sun.

JOHN NEWCOMBE

As the world outside still mourned the absence of the 70 odd world leading players from the 1973 Wimbledon championships, John Newcombe was holding a cocktail party in a West London hotel.

To an assembly of journalists and television cameras, Newcombe announced his debut as a movie actor in the film, "Game, Set and Murder" to be shot on location next month in Melbourne and Sydney.

The crisis in world tennis was momentarily forgotten as we accepted Newcombe's hospitality while he outlined plans for the film. Negotiations were continuing with an internationally famous actress (possibly Jane Fonda or Racquel Welch) and there'll be some torrid love scenes, he said.

Later in the day, the 29-year-old Australian was meeting tennis officials from the Asian countries and Australia to discuss the final details of a quarter of a million dollar circuit put together by himself and Fred Stolle for that part of the world in October-November.

Then, in the evening, he found time to talk with Australian Davis Cup captain Neale Fraser about our challenge to regain the coveted trophy this year.

It was all in a day's work for Newcombe the tennis player, administrator, coach, promoter, tennis ranch proprietor, movie actor and maybe a little of everything else rolled in one.

In fact, it would be no surprise to see Newcombe end up on the hoardings as an aspiring politician. He's that sort of vital person always looking for a new challenge.

The recovery of the Davis Cup from the Americans this year was a challenge to Newcombe; a goal which offers no real financial reward but one which will satisfy his inner pride.

In Japan and India this year as Fraser and his boys took the preliminary steps of the 1973 campaign, no-one worked harder or lost more sweat than Newcombe in practice.

Here was a player to whom practically every honor in tennis has fallen; a man next to whom even Charlton Heston is always proud to have his photograph taken gutsing (a favorite word of his) it out for his country.

He could have been knocking it about in the \$50,000-a-tournament four-month-World Championship of Tennis circuit at the same time but that would have meant a loss of his independence for which he had fought and a failure on his part to help Australian tennis.

Match-hardened by 10 years or so on the international circuit, it was strange to see Newcombe unusually tense before his first singles match in Japan. . . . "I'm starting to get that old familiar nervous feeling in my stomach," he said.

He last played Davis Cup in 1967, the year Australia defeated Spain in the Challenge Round. He turned professional the following year along with many other leading Australian players and we were left with a team of youngsters to defend the Cup in Adelaide in December 1968 against the Americans.

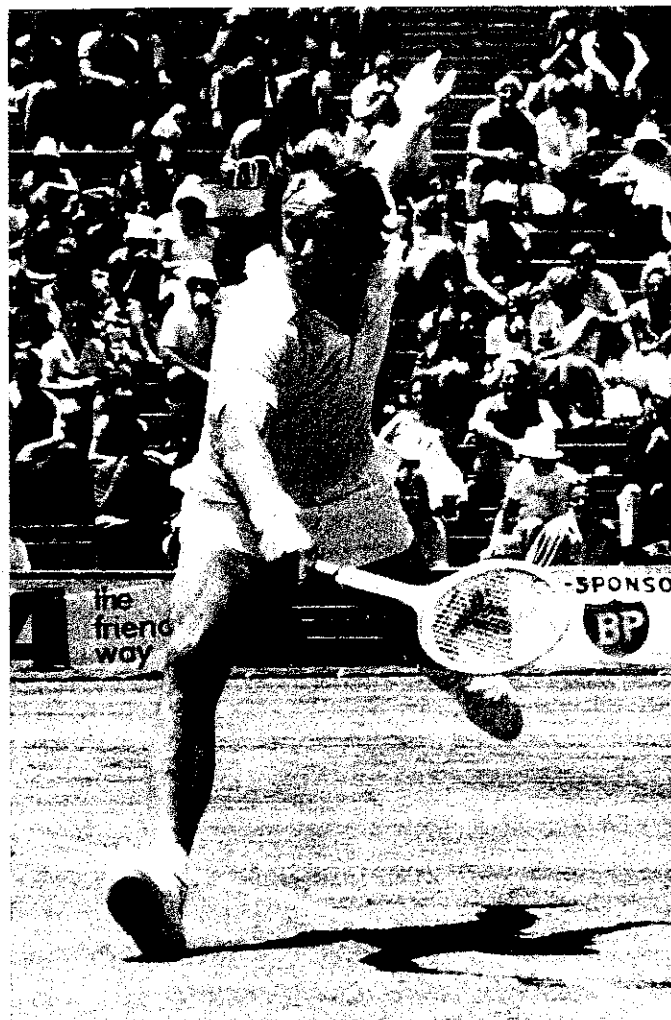
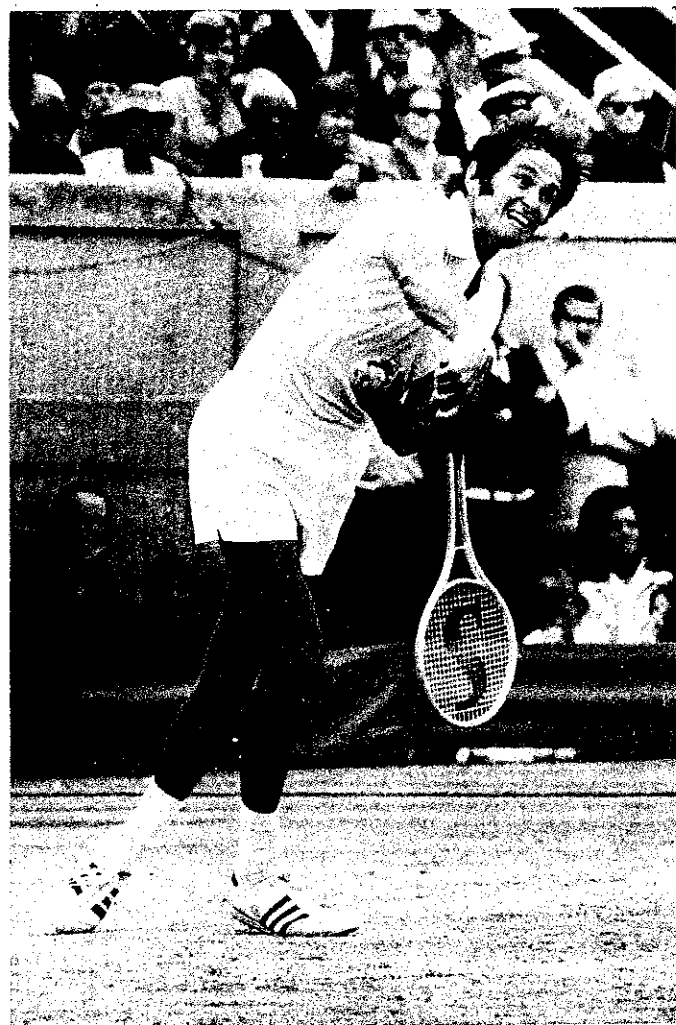
Those youngsters lost—and that was the last time the Davis Cup was on our shores.

"We'll bring it back this year," says Newcombe and the way he says it leaves little doubt.

A super-confident, maybe to the point of being pleasantly arrogant, man.

It's the same in everything Newcombe does. An Ambassador for Australia who is equally at home talking—and drinking tea—with the Chinese Minister for Sport (a meeting that took place in Tokyo this year) or on a night out with the boys.

He's a born organiser and leader. Take for instance in Madras this year when the Cup team was confined to the hotel for security reasons! It was Newcombe who started the nightly games



JOHN NEWCOMBE, pressing his purposeful attack as he reaches for this backhand volley.

of charades that more often than not would never have got past the censor.

The year 1973 has been a mixed bag for Newcombe. It started with victory in the Australian Open, but then after the Eastern Zone of the Cup there were seemingly inexplicable losses in the first rounds of the Italian and French championships.

Then there was his triumph over Wimbledon champion Jan Kodes in the final of the U.S. championship; a match which proved to many cynics that John Newcombe was still the same man who has won three Wimbledon championships.

But the year will not be complete for "Brodsky" (his latest nickname in a sport that thrives on them) until Australia has won back the Davis Cup.

Peter Stone
"The Age", Melbourne.

MAL ANDERSON

Dark, pencil-fine Mal Anderson saved Australia from a Davis Cup fiasco when he came to the rescue in the December of 1971.

Australia was in a terrible pickle as John Alexander, and then Phil Dent, were whisked away by World Championship tennis.

The net had been thrown out to snare the ageing Queenslander, but Anderson didn't jump at the Cup comeback without long thought and a searching look at his form.

After all, he was 36 at the time and had long since said goodbye to Davis Cup play and the rigours of the professional circuit which followed his amateur career.

It had been mainly squash that had kept him in "fighting" trim at 11 st. 10 lb. — only three pounds heavier than when he won the US singles title in 1957.

Finally Anderson said "Yes" and Australia was relieved to have a man of his experience and new-found enthusiasm to join other Cup squad players John Cooper, Colin Dibley, Ross Case and Geoff Masters.

For Anderson it was a journey back into the past.

The one-time stockman from Theodore, in northern Queensland, had almost forgotten his days on the Davis Cup rampage.

You have to turn back the needle to the Challenge Round in 1957 — the year after Hoad and Rosewall turned pro. — to see Anderson's name on the Cup list.

With Ashley Cooper and Merv Rose, he helped beat the Americans, Barry Mackay and Vic Seixas 3-2, in Melbourne.

He was also in the losing team against America in Brisbane in 1958. That was his last Challenge Round.

Anderson turned professional in January, 1959 . . . two years after he had defeated Victorian Ashley Cooper in straight sets to win the US singles.

In 1958, Cooper reversed the result over Anderson.

In 1958 Cooper also denied Anderson of winning the Australian title and in 1972, so did Ken Rosewall.

It is a title that has still eluded him.

Anderson never reached dizzy heights in professional tennis, but he had several big wins and reaped enough to secure his future.

Then, after several years of semi retirement, Anderson came back to competition play a few years back and immediately started to hit the jackpot.

Anderson led the Australian assault through Asia and Europe in 1972 in efforts to regain the Davis Cup, which had been lost to America in 1968.

Australia got to the interzone final against Rumania — the best we'd done since losing it to America.

Says Anderson: "I feel they were a slightly better team, but given a fair deal we had an outside chance of victory."

"But, after the first day's play and the way the linesmen and the audience reacted we needed almost a miracle to win."

"I am not making excuses as I have already stated they were a better team, but I do like to be given a fair go, which we were not, as we were playing for Australia, not ourselves".

Australia lost 1-4.

Anderson had done us proud as he has done us this year in helping the Cup team into this semi-final against Czechoslovakia.

—Greg Hobbs
Melbourne Sun.

COLIN DIBLEY

Lanky Colin Dibley is known around the tennis traps as the man with the crashing service.

In Australia, he's known as one of the faithful band of men who for the last few years have been trying to win back the Davis Cup.

And, the one-time Sydney customs officer, who didn't enter the big-time until comparatively late in life, has been doing quite well for himself gathering in healthy pickings overseas.

This year Dibley has won one of the WCT tournaments — something that certainly boosted his confidence in the Big League.

Dibley, 29, first bobbed up in the Davis Cup team in 1971, the year he was first ranked No. 1 in Australia.

In one mighty swoop he had gone from "nowhere" in 1969 to 11 in 1970 and one in 1971.

In Dibley's first year in Cup play, Australia was knocked out of the race in the Zone semi-final by Japan.

Dibley dropped a rung to No. 2 on the Australian list in 1972. The Australian Cup mission was again through the Eastern Zone

26



COLIN DIBLEY, at the end of a big forehand.

and it finally ended at the hands of Rumania at Bucharest in August.

When the 1973 rankings came out, Dibley had slipped back to fourth spot — behind John Newcombe, Ken Rosewall and Mal Anderson.

With Laver, Rosewall and Newcombe again in Cup standing, Dibley may have dropped a little out of the limelight.

But when Dibley returned to Australia after overseas engagements in September he made it well known he was out to win a Cup berth ahead of the more fancied candidates.

Maybe if Dibley could produce more of the form he has shown at Wimbledon, then he could.

In 1971 and 1972 he reached the last eight at Wimbledon, which all competitors will tell you, takes some doing.

There is plenty of tennis in his rangy frame and he would have won many more big matches only for unaccountable lapses at vital times.

—Greg Hobbs
Melbourne Sun.

Ross Case

in typical
action shot.

He moves well, is
strong and is always
a danger — especially
on hardcourts.



ROSS CASE ...

Rover-sized Ross Case hails from Toowoomba, Queensland and for the last few years has been one of the work-horses in the Davis Cup mission.

He is in his first year with WCT where the returns have been quite profitable for a young player only finding his feet.

Case was 22 earlier this month and is presently ranked sixth in Australia.

Davis Cup captain Neale Fraser says of Case: "Ross is always a danger because of his strength and speed around the court. He also has a very good forehand.

"He is in the Ken Fletcher mould."

In 1971, Case was runner-up in the Queensland titles and it was this year he played Davis Cup singles against Indonesia in Jakarta.

He won his singles match in hot and trying conditions.

As yet Case is only on the fringe of the upper echelon, but in his various overseas trips has chalked up many commendable victories.

For instance, his win over seasoned campaigner, Spaniard Manuel Orantes in the US titles this year was a most noteworthy result.

Much more will be heard of him.

—Greg Hobbs
Melbourne Sun.

GEOFF MASTERS

In just two short weeks late last year, 23-year-old Geoff Masters stamped himself as the brightest prospect in Australian tennis for years.

In that time, Masters won the Australian hardcourt title at Dendy Park in Melbourne beating Ken Rosewall and Mal Anderson along the way and the following week he went down to Rosewall in a marathon five-set final in the Queensland championships.

My comments on Masters performance in Brisbane were: "The gap is closing. No longer can Ken Rosewall step on to the court and be undisputed champion.

"Geoff Masters can look forward to a long and prosperous career on the international tennis circuit.

"He proved yesterday that his semi-final win over Rosewall in the national hardcourt championships recently was no flash in the pan, and we can now look to him to win new honours for Australian tennis."

Masters dramatic improvement in form in November-December last year could be attributed to the old master, Frank Sedgman. The young Queenslander was a house guest of Sedgman's for a month before his hardcourt victory.

At night they would talk tennis and tactics.

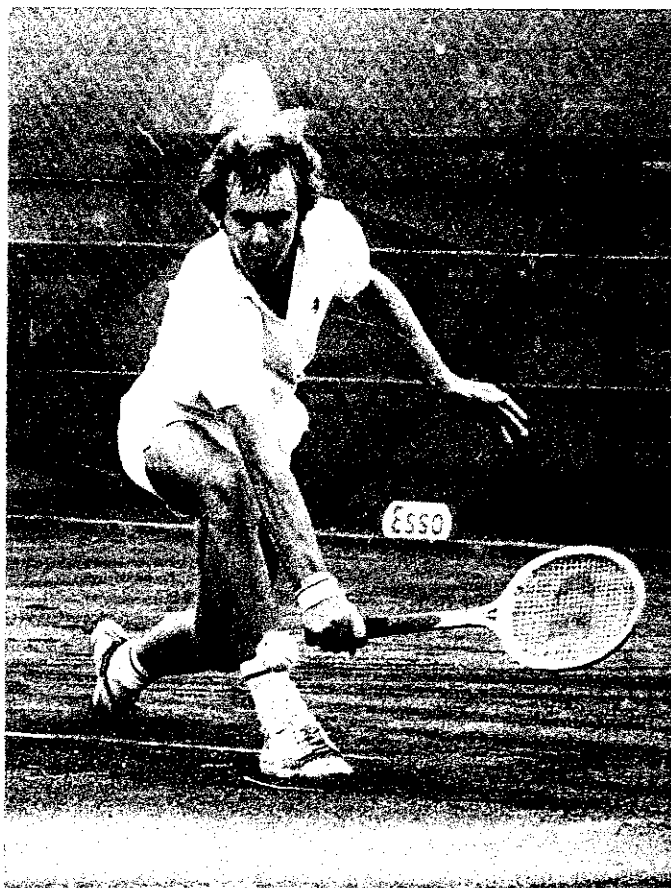
Then this year on the Eastern Zone Cup campaign Masters benefited further with the experience of training with triple Wimbledon champion John Newcombe and Cup captain Neale Fraser.

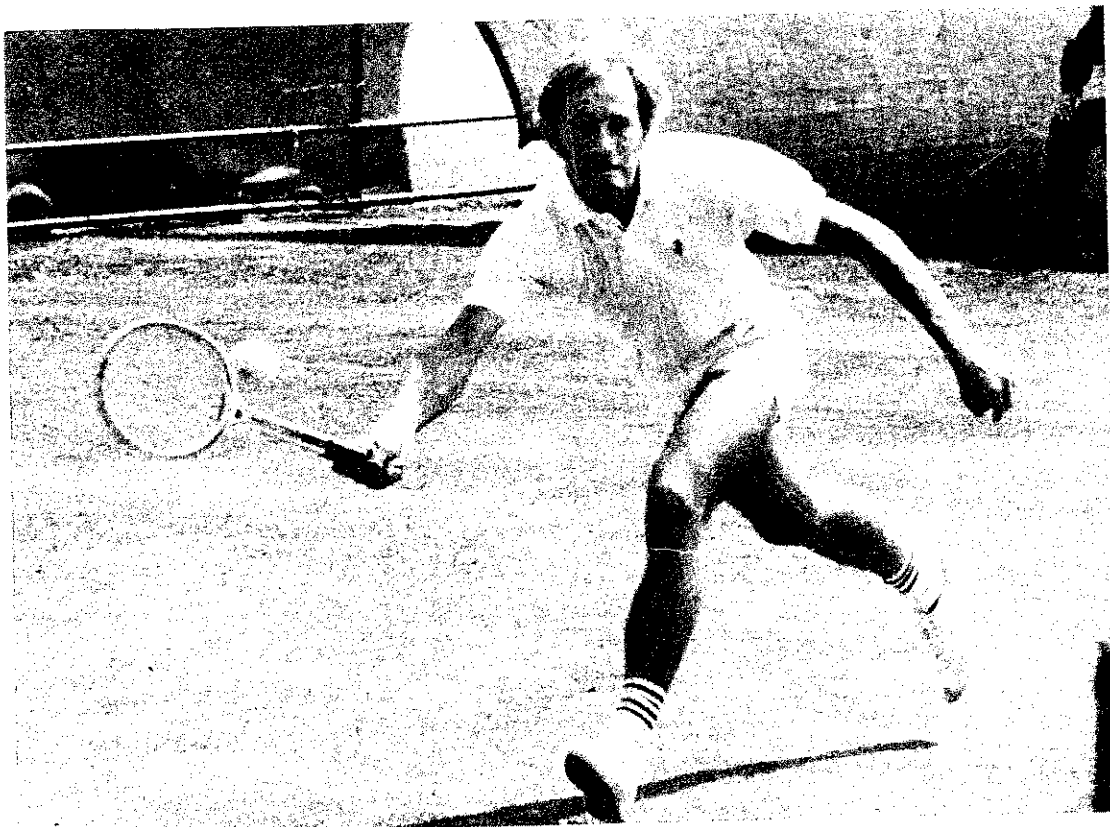
Masters, an energetic player with a good all court game, may not take part in this tie against Czechoslovakia but he is a valuable member of the team.

In future years, Australia can look to Masters as a key figure in its Davis Cup team.

Peter Stone
"The Age", Melbourne

GEOFF MASTERS shows good technique in this low backhand.





Bob Giltinan
reaches for
a wide
forehand
volley.

BOB GILTINAN

Bob Giltinan was ranked No 2 player in Australia in 1970-71 but then the Army took almost two years from his tennis career.

Yes, Giltinan was called up for National Service, but only after a long legal battle. He found little time for tennis during his training and was discharged just a couple of days before the last national championships at Kooyong.

"Tennis is my career again and I'm going to make the most of it," Giltinan said at the time and Mal Anderson must have regretted them.

Playing as though he'd been at it every day for the last two years, Giltinan defeated Anderson, the defending champion, in the second round.

Now ranked No 9 in Australia, the 24-year-old Giltinan regained his place in the Davis Cup team, lost in 1971 by his National Service duties.

One of the fastest servers in the business, Giltinan plays a power game which is at its best on grass or fast clay courts.

He proved himself a good team man in Japan and India this year when he was left out of the selected four for both matches, but still trained with tremendous enthusiasm with the others.

He's another player to whom Australian selectors are looking for future years.

Peter Stone
"The Age", Melbourne.



JOHN NEWCOMBE has won most of the big championships and is a familiar figure in this role.