



"Join us again in 2004!"

2 GREAT TENNIS FANTASIES EVENTS:

- March 4-7, for Men and Women
- October 17-22, 17th Annual Men's Event

For information on any of these events, call Steve Contardi at 1-800-874-7788.

Finally...

Contardi Goes Geek!!!

Please send your E-mail address to Steve Contardi at stevec@tp1.com

COMING SOON!!

Tennis Fantasies website www.tennisfantasies.net

Check us out!!

To submit articles, opinions, etc., please send to: Steve Contardi at The Club at Harper's Point 8675 E. Kemper Road • Cincinnati, OH 45249 • E-mail stevec@tp1.com



8675 E. Kemper Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45249



The Legends Live on Forever...And the Party Never Ends!!

Tails Of The Legends

Volume 12

Fall, 2003

Editor: Joel Drucker

Contributing Staff: All Legends & Tennis Fantasies Alumni

This year Tennis Fantasies celebrates its 16th anniversary. Over this time, a number of patterns have emerged covering everything from bizarre offcourt rituals to unorthodox playing styles, personalized training methods and all the idiosyncratic attitudes and behaviors you'd expect would emerge from a group of sun-baked, tennis-loving men.

In the interest of understanding this better, we present a Tales of the Legends first:



PREPARATION



• "Try to make your workouts more about quality than quantity. Spend an hour really working hard rather than just standing out there for two hours. If you practice like it's the biggest match, then when the big match comes, you'll be ready." — Dick Stockton

• "Get lots of rest before you come to Newk's. It's your last shot for a week."

• "Run down a roo per day to get your endurance levels up a bit, and if you can't find one of them then try a deer or a chook or indeed a chick." — Angus Deane (see John Newcombe for translation)



• "Spend time working on your game - drilling, playing hard, getting the intensity up. You'll need every inch of it." — Mark Cripps

• "Work on a good racket-throwing tantrum. There is nothing worse than a bad tantrum." — Kevin Castner

KARAOKE: KONFLICTING VIEWS

• "Sing your heart out at Karaoke because no one is really listening anyway, especially if the World Series is on" — Larry Starr

• "Just because your drunk doesn't mean you have to sing at Karaoke." — Ken Munson



PACING

• "Be prepared to be insulted - at least on a daily basis - and use it to your advantage." — Joel Drucker

COMPETING

• "Finagle a way to get on the Wankers. Roy drafted me my first year, and it was the only championship that I ever won!!!" — Marty Judge, who by his own admission has been traded more often than Rickey Henderson.

• Don't worry about what spot you play in your team's line-up. There's a reason your coaches have placed you in that spot, and it probably means you're not as good as you think, so just win. Deal with it!"



• "Don't ask Angus to repeat what he said. Just smile." — Mark Benjamin

• Don't do too much too early or else you won't be ready for the big matches." — Owen Davidson



- “Stop freaking out when you see Cliff Drysdale stare at you from behind his hat - just get used to it.”

— Marc Segan



HITTING THE BALL

- “Remember that the guys who look like good players - great strokes, rackets, clothes - usually suck, and the guys that look like a disaster area - ugly strokes, old rackets - well, just shut up and play your butt off.”
- “Move your feet.” — Roy Emerson
- “If you make every possible effort to watch the ball, and watch it through the entire swing, you’ll hit the ball at least 15 percent more effectively.” — Cliff Drysdale
- “Stop trying to impress the legends and just play solid tennis.” — Owen Davidson

THE BOAT RACE



- “If you want to win, get on Newk’s team.” — many campers
- “Don’t wear dark clothing unless you are drinking next to Drysdale. That way when he spills half his glass on you, it will be more difficult to determine the amount of spillage on your shirt.”
- “Be gentle on the Commish and Assistant Commish. They are very sensitive and caring people.” — Larry Starr, Assistant Commissioner

UNDERSTANDING OUR HOSTS

- “Don’t ask Fred Stolle whom the only player was in the history of tennis to lose three Wimbledon singles finals in a row.”

A WINNING RECIPE



- “Don’t try and figure out how Contardi keeps smiling. It’s a gift you’ll never have.” — Chris Conway
- “We joke around all the time, but it’s all fun, so just go with it and enjoy the ride.” — Fred Stolle
- “If you can serve like Newk, hit a volley like Emmo, hit a drop shot like Manolo, hit ground strokes like Muscles, move like Roche and behave like Marty, then all will be well.” — Howard Rogg

TENNIS FANTASIES 2003: PREVIEW

All of the Tennis Fantasies captains were seen this year at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. Each was carefully reviewing his line-up and determining the best way to capture the crown in 2003.

But it’s never easy overcoming the Wankers, who last year earned their second straight title - and fifth in eight seasons. “We’re just lucky,” said **Marty Riessen** in the Player’s Lounge of the U.S. Open. **Roy Emerson** concurred. In the meantime, rumor has it that the Wankers have built a massive on-line database with results from every single match in the history of Tennis Fantasies.

Meanwhile, Musclemen leaders, **Owen Davidson** and **Cliff Drysdale** were pondering how they could rekindle the spark that ignited their squad to surprising three-peat between ‘98 and ‘00. **Davidson**, completely non-plussed by the motivational speeches that are a **Drysdale** trademark, thinks “it’s simply a matter of a few points that settle all these matches.”

continued on page 3

TRUE TALES OF THE LEGENDS

As you’d expect from a group of legends, the Tennis Fantasies troupe has graced its share of many a book written about tennis.



Charlie Pasarell surfaces in many books written about his best friend, the late Arthur Ashe, including John McPhee’s Levels of the Game and Ashe’s own books Portrait in Motion (which includes a hearty section on all of the Aussies), Off The Court and Days of Grace.

Manolo Santana and **Cliff Drysdale** also grace the pages of several works all about the ‘60s and ‘70s. Cliffie surfaces with the most humor in his former brother-in-law Gordon Forbes’ classic, A Handful of Summers.



Several legends have also authored books. Most recently, **John Newcombe’s** autobiography, Newk, was a best-seller in Australia. Newk also authored three instructional books. Nearly two decades ago, though, **Fred Stolle** beat Newk to the punch with his own memoir, Tennis Down Under, a book that reveals more about what makes “Fiery” tick than you’d dare imagine.



During the half-decade he spent as coach in the British LTA, **Owne Davidson** wrote two fine historical works: Great Women Tennis Players and Lawn Tennis: The Great Ones.



Roy Emerson, a true team player, coauthored Tennis For the Bloody Fun of It with some lefty named Laver.



But the legend-authored book that’s most compelling to this writer comes from one of the more quiet voices at Tennis Fantasies. **Marty Riessen’s** Match Point covers the 1971-’72 season and includes a thoughtful look at this life and dozens of mini-profiles of his playing contemporaries.

TENNIS FANTASIES 2003: PREVIEW *continued from page 2*



Mongrel Kangaroos looking for 1st title since ‘91

But no team has quite as much baggage coming into this season as the Newcombe-let Mongrel Kangaroos. How long has it been since this team won? Well, let’s put it this way: George Bush, Senior was still in the White House. “We’re asking for a little sympathy this year from the other legends,” says **Newcombe**. “After all, **Mal** almost died 20 months ago, I had a stroke in March and **Charlie** has had lots of problems since ISL went broke.

Many years ago, as a young rookie, I asked a senior Aussie legend (whom I looked up to), **Fred Stolle**, for some sympathy. His words still ring in my ears: “In the dictionary sympathy is somewhere between shit and suicide.”

Though no one dare disparage Stolle or Newcombe’s knowledge of the dictionary, the point remains. According to Newcombe, “We Mongrel Kangaroos are drawing a very clear line in the sand, and to push us back over that line is going to take a super human effort!”

Place your bets.