Netters beware: Tennis elbow is dangerous

By DAVID W. STEWART

When you get that searing pain in our elbow, you won't forget the feel-

When you get that searing pain in your elbow, you won't forget the feeling.
You can get it pounding naits, pulling weeds, pitching baseballs or playing the violin . . . The problem is the same, but its severity varies. Some people can continue playing with "tennis elbow," and others can't pick up a coffee cup.
The problem seems to strike most frequently those players over the age of 30. Champions like Margaret Court, Rod Laver, Blille Jean King, Marty Riessen and Arthur Ashe all suffered

the injury late in their careers.

Australian Tony Roche developed "tennis elbow" while he was seeded second in the world to Laver. After two operations, the first in America and the second in England, the pain was still too severe for him to return to tournament tennis.

A friend suggested Roche visit a "Attend Suggested Roche visit a "Attend Suggested In the Philippines Roche, desperate for a cure, made the right Wilhout the use of surgical instruments of the second suggested the second suggested the second suggested to the second suggested suggested to the second suggested to the second suggested suggested to the second suggested s

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competition and recaptured some of his old form. PEOPLE SOLVE their problems in

PEOPLE SOLVE their problems in many ways, but I have never heard or read of the same panacea for everyone. Many players have used ortisone and others have used acupuncture, arm hands, braces, and a number of players have had successful operations. Other players have just rested until the pain disappeared. I'm not a doctor, and I would never attempt to explain the problem or describe what is happening inside the el-bow area or suggest a cure.

But I can tell it is painful — very painful.

I had it once and an orthopedic surgeon told me rest was the best cure. I took his advice and after the pain went away I started playing again. The pain has never returned. I would like to offer a few suggestions for preventing the injury and, if you have suffered the pain, its reocurrence.

The first and easiest step is to find a teaching professional you believe in and have him or her check out your stroke execution. Many times the problem occurs because the player is executing the stroke incorrectly. cuting the stroke incorrectly

A second preventive measure is the strengthening of the muscles to handle

around your fingers and thumb and force them to spread apart as far as the canter of the racquet.

A friend told me he bought himself a device to strengthen his forearm while he was driving to work. He said he got "tennis elbow" using he device a saked some questions and discovered he immediately started exercising on he way to work and on the way home. He didn't realize he was doing the same he way to wank and on the way home. The same and th

THERE IS a wonderful exercise which will help prevent "tennis elbow."

Get a heavy duty rubber band. Put it ailment.

the wrist and forearms. You don't need heavy weights, but you must stick to a workout schedule if you want the bene-fits. The biggest problem with weights or any exercise program is that people often quit them too soon. You may never get "tennis elbow," but if you are over 30, and if you don't do something to prevent it, you run the risk of suffering the dreaded allment.

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