

Lindquist takes Sonneborn

By TOM SCHRAM

To the philosopher, nothing is more irritating than the trivia buff.

"Squash," said Chip Lindquist, "is the national sport of Pakistan." Add one more irrelevancy to the list of things not needed to be remembered.

BUT LINDQUIST is not a trivia buff, rather he is a squash buff—a student of a game which he practices virtually every day of the week.

And the long hours on the cold courts of the Birmingham Athletic Club paid off for the 17-year-old Birmingham resident last week as he outlasted 110 rivals to take the Sonneborn Squash Racquets Tournament at the Southfield Athletic Club.

For the average man, squash is 25 cents per pound at the local grocery store.

For Lindquist, who switches racquets often enough in the springtime to letter on the Cranbrook varsity team, is a game, an obsession, almost a way of life.

HE HAS studied the game which the very great majority of Americans have never seen and he will expound on its complexities and subtleties much the same as a high school football coach will talk for hours on the advantage of this offense or that alignment.

"I like tennis and that's why I enjoy playing for Cranbrook. But squash is much more fluent. Despite the smaller size of the court,

your reaction time has to be much faster," Lindquist said.

Lindquist had his reaction time and pretty much everything else going for him in taking the Sonneborn, a handicap tournament.

Playing with a handicap of plus three, he defeated Ron Beam of the Southfield Jewish Community Center, who played with a minus 16 handicap, three games to two.

LINDQUIST TOOK the two hour final match by using finesse and capitalizing on his opponent's mistakes.

"He was much stronger and so I had to make controlled shots. I feel that if I would have played his game of strong shots he would have won easily," he said.

Lindquist ran into two minor problems in the finals. Squash is played in a box-like room and certain shots, particularly those to

the deep corners, must be played virtually inches from the wall.

On one such shot, Lindquist miscalculated and banged his racquet off the wall, rendering it useless for much more than firewood.

LINDQUIST DID not have a second racquet so he had to borrow the racquet of BAC squash pro Walter Oehrlein.

"His racquet is only 7½ ounces while mine is 8½ ounces," Lindquist said.

That, apparently, is a world of difference in the higher levels of the game.

"A lighter racquet is harder to control and you get much greater power from the heavier racquet so I had to adjust," he said.

A SECOND problem arose when Beam bounced the relatively hard squash ball off of Lindquist's legs twice in the finals of the

match. It was little consolation that such accidents are fairly common in the game.

"I kept on playing because I felt that if I was to stop, my legs might have tightened up," Lindquist said.

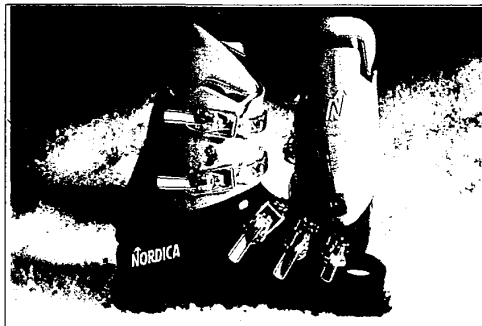
"But I still have the bruises and I probably will have them for quite a while."

While Lindquist is aware of the fact that squash might vary his lifestyle from that of the average 17-year-old male, he considers the game worth the sacrifice.

"I'VE MISSED out on some extra-curricular activities because of squash but I enjoy the game to the point that it's worthwhile," he said.

So worthwhile, in fact that Lindquist intends to choose his college, in part, based on the school's squash reputation and facilities.

The Sporthäus features Nordica...



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Plastics vs. leather

Up until Nordica, the emergence of plastic boots over leather disappointed many skiers. One almost universal complaint was that "the feel for the snow" seemed lost forever. The plastics gave too much ankle support and skiing suffered.

Taped ankle effect

Nordica sought to utilize the advantages and performance features of leather boots in plastic. They found it. By combining functional design, biomechanics and their problem solving techniques, Nordica brought skiing back to the ankles. "The taped ankle effect" was born.

Evolutionary/revolutionary

GT Nordica succeeded in designing the GT with a sense of strength and support like that derived from a taped ankle.



The GT uses a leather lining and a soft upper cuff to simulate the taped ankle principle. It works... the cuff pulls the lining close to the ankle. This allows the ankle maximum natural flexibility. The lost "feel for the snow" can be felt again.

Comfort and warmth

Extensive improvements have also been made to insure the GT is comfortable and dry. The new thermal liner system insulates the skier's foot with the same principle as a "space blanket". By cementing a thin sheet of polyethylene foam under the liner, heat produced by the body is prevented from escaping. Tests indicate the system is "almost too warm". Music to a skier's feet!

Open-sole construction

The open-sole beam construction concentrates a skier's weight directly over the ski edges by two stiffening ribs. These ribs are attached to the shell's thin, soft sole. This design allows for more sensitive feel of the ski through the sole of the boot. Another aspect of Nordica's "feel for the snow".

Norfit Injection—the ultimate custom fitting service

"Norfit" is a moveable padding used for customized fit. It's made of small pieces of cork suspended in a special additive. When a foot goes in, the boot "naturally" fits around it. "Norfit" is incorporated in the Astral GT. Nordica's improvements in leather lining, "Norfit" and the new Norfit Injection System makes available to skiers the best orthopedic customizing service anywhere.

Straight boot talk

Contrary to majority opinion, a boot's performance features are even more important to the average and beginning skier than to the well accomplished. The better skier can usually adapt to most differences and changes in equipment. And, in today's market, it requires more than a glance to distinguish a functional boot from one that is not. The Don Thomas ski crew is trained to know important differences. They know their products. They know skiing. And, they know how to match the best of both worlds to insure your performance on the slopes is your best. We're open Monday thru Friday 'til 9. Saturday 'til 6.

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