



BOYS CHAMPS, in doubles play, were Steve Smith (left) and John Sisson, both 16 years old. They scored 6-0, 6-0 triumphs in all three of their tournament matches.

Tennis Anyone?

Birmingham's first Community Tennis tournament is history.

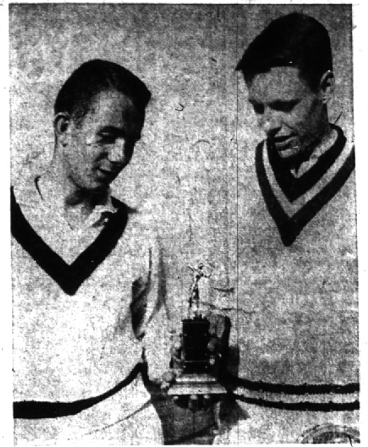
The joint effort of The Birmingham Eccentric and the city recreation department, the big new event proved a marked success, attracting 107 entries in its eight divisions.

Engraved medals were given by The Eccentric to both winners and runnersup. The Varsity shop also joined boosters of the meet, donating perpetual trophies for the eight titlists.

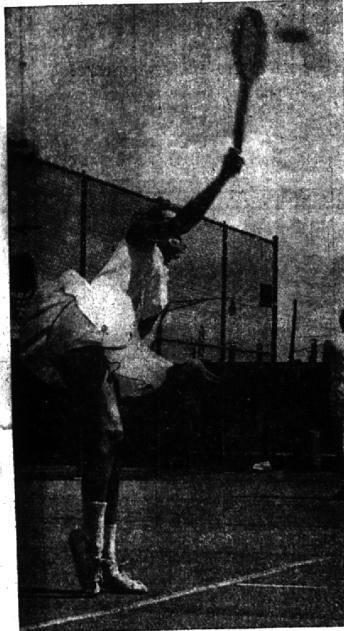
The Eccentric here presents a page of tournament highlights — including photographs of all Birmingham's 1958 net champions.



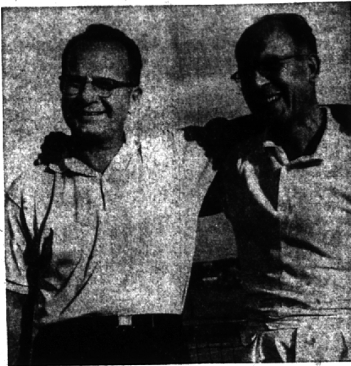
THE SISTER TEAM of Whitney and Starr Walker copped girls' doubles honors. Whitney (left) is 16, while Starr, also girl's singles champ and runnerup in women's singles, is 17. Starr picked up still more laurels in women's doubles, she and partner Julie Candler taking second.



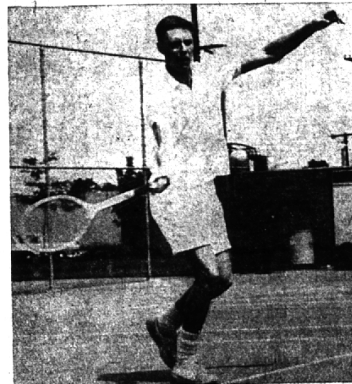
MEN'S LAURELS, in doubles, went to 21-year-old Hillsdale college star Howard Johnson, Jr. (left), and 18-year-old Norm Fredericks. Fredericks, former University of Detroit high net ace and a freshman at Notre Dame this fall, was the meet's outstanding player. He also captured the championships in the men's and boy's singles divisions.



WIMBLETON didn't have anything on Birmingham. Pretty Starr Walker, 17, sported this cute costume in Sunday's finals play. She leans hard into a serve in the girls doubles title match, first of three straight championship encounters for the outstanding young star.



CRAFTY VETERANS John Barta (left) and Alvin Sass gave their hard-slamming younger foes plenty of trouble throughout men's doubles play. They scored a big upset in the semi-finals, then bowed to Norm Fredericks and Howard Johnson, Jr., in a thrilling title match.



HARD-SLAMMING former prep star Norm Fredericks returns a serve in his boy's singles title match. Norm won the Detroit Metropolitan league's eastern division championship the past two seasons while at U of D high.



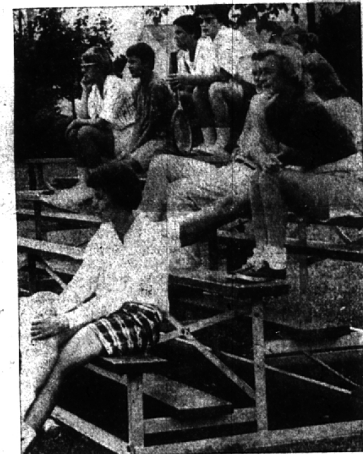
CUTE MODEL Whitney Walker, 16, proved as much at home on the tennis courts as she did in front of a camera. She's shown in action in the girls doubles title match. She and her sister, Starr, 17, took home the championship.



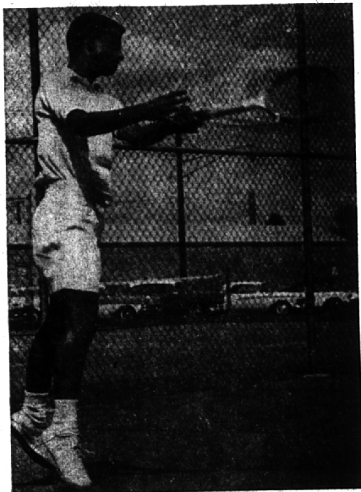
The Birmingham Eccentric
Thursday, August 28, 1958

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN
SECTION B

To be sure, most of us desire the praise that we honestly deserve; some want it without earning it. But mere praise is as vanishing as dew beneath the warming sun... and the world's assailed honor is short-lived. There are, however, moments of high inner, or spiritual, satisfaction when you know you've done a good deed, unselfishly.



IT WAS HOT at Eton park, scene of The Eccentric-recreation tourney, but several died-in-the-wool tennis fans stuck it out in the sun to watch Saturday and Sunday's finals matches. The weather was just about perfect for the entire meet.



SOUTHPAW Steve Smith, 16-year-old Birmingham high junior and a promising young player, returns a serve in his boy's singles title match. He was runnerup to Norm Fredericks.

MEET OFFICIALS work on pairings for the tournament's eight divisions. From left, Les Line, The Birmingham Eccentric sports editor; Lew Parry, tourney director; Ray Sackett, Birmingham Tennis club's publicity chairman, and Robert E. Girardin, city recreation director.



Photo Story by Les Line



THE YOUNGEST entrants in the tourney meet before the start of their boy's doubles match. Left to right are Dick Tobin, 11; Bob Faight, 10, and brothers Bobby and Jeff Hodde, 9 and 11. Bobby and Jeff won in three sets.