

## Good Sports 1.

Law Society Council member Max Horton, recently rated a mention in the *London Evening Standard*. Max, wearing his other hat as President of Tennis NT, had attended Wimbledon and was given prime seating in the Royal Box along with Princess Michael of Kent and a range of other notables.

Max was overseas on a tennis trip, where he also took in the French Open and was one of three Australian delegates to the AGM of the International Tennis Federation, the body responsible for overseeing, governing and promoting tennis.

## Good sports 2.

*Spider's Web* was also interested to note that one of our Darwin practitioners was featured in the Player's Profile of the DRL Official Programme a week or two back.

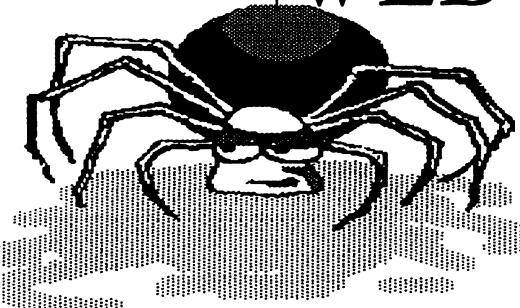
We learnt lots about this young sporting hero from the column, including his most embarrassing moment which (not surprisingly) was 'being dacked on telly'. Sadly there were no accompanying photos, but young ladies wishing to capture his heart in the usual way might note that 'Mum's paster dishes' feature as favourite food.

## That Much We Knew

Researching the recent NT budget announcement of the appointment of a sixth Supreme Court judge, we turned (rather diligently, we thought) to the text of the Budget Speech for more information. Diligence was not, on this occasion, rewarded. The text in its entirety read:

"The Budget also provides for the appointment of a sixth Supreme Court Judge which will expedite due legal process in the Courts"

# THE SPIDER'S WEB



## Don't Give up Your Day Job

*Drover's Dog* from WA Law Society's journal *Brief* reports on this tale found in the *Ontario Herald*.

Justice Sam Murphy told defendant Gerald Dixon: "If there is one thing I can't stand it's a dumb amateur. I'm a professional, the police are professionals, and we expect to work with professional criminals, not bubble-headed imbeciles. You couldn't find your own butt with both hands."

The reason for the good judge's outburst is made clearer when Mr Dixon's lawyer petitioned for leniency on the grounds of gross stupidity.

Mr Dixon was arrested for a bank robbery which he perpetrated wearing a balaclava on a hot day in July having just bought the garment and put it on whilst leaving the store. Needless to say, the store manager, hearing that the nearby Bank of Montreal in Whitby had just been robbed of \$2600, telephoned the police, who identified Dixon from the store security camera.

In the words of his lawyer: "But the true extent of my client's stupidity was only revealed later that day, when he returned to the same bank and sought to open an account. They asked how much cash he'd like to deposit and he said '\$2600 cash'. He was arrested immediately."

## They Never Give Up

The 42-minute speech of Mr Junior Silk, Kim Hargrave, at the Victorian Bar dinner is reported in the Winter issue of the *Victorian Bar News* and makes very entertaining reading. Mr Junior Silk's task was to say something about each of the 20 honoured guests, ranging from the federal Attorney-General through Justice Michael Kirby to the newly appointed Victorian Chief Magistrate, Michael Adams, QC.

The task appears to have been performed admirably as Mr Junior's research unearthed some delightful tales about the assembled dignitaries.

Most of them bear retelling, and the one about Sir Ninian Stephen's mother provoked a few chuckles. Apparently, when Sir Ninian retired as Governor-General, his mother was in her 90s and resident in a nursing home. One day she went missing and a search party discovered her in a local shop. When asked what she was doing, she responded: "My son is out of a job and I am looking for employment for him!"

What a woman!

## Who's on First?

Rear Window column (*Financial Review*, Tuesday August 27 1996) reports on a post-Budget speech given to SA lawyers and accountants by the Treasurer Peter Costello, followed by a vote of thanks from South Australia Law Society President Tony Abbott.

## Fanciful figures

*Spider's Web* admits to feeling a little nervous about the ability of the Coalition government to balance the federal budget after reading the following in Senator Grant Tambling's report (on the gun debate):

"There were less than 10 letters from many regional centres including Tennant Creek (9), Katherine (3), Nhulunbuy (3) and Jabiru (1)."