

Soviet Tennis Ace Metreveli Joins Pro Tour

(AP) News Analysis
A Soviet tennis ace is joining an American-operated professional tour "strictly as an amateur," and if you're a true believer in the Communist way, that makes sense.

To the surprise of millions, probably including millions of Russians, Alex Metreveli, a 25-year-old star, will join one of two troupes opening the season in January under theegis of World Championship Tennis Inc. of Dal-

las. Mike Davies, executive director of WCT, says that Metreveli will be paid any prize money he earns, and Davies couldn't care less what happens to the cash thereafter. All this encourages some intriguing speculation.

Have the Russians been unable to resist the pleasant whiff of money from abroad? There was that highly exploited world championship chess match between Boris Spassky and Bobby Fischer

for a whole lot of marbles, and there was that recent Team Canada-Soviet hockey series with its promise of lucrative games yet to come against other teams.

Are the Russians about to expand a promising source of foreign exchange? Who knows what could develop? After chess shak-hmat and hockey Khokkei and now the tennis players tennisti who knows but that some day it might be soccer futbol, basketball besketbol and even baseball bez-

bol?
If all this happens, none of the Soviet participants will be regarded as pros. In the time-honored phrase of Pravda, "it is well known" that there are no professional athletes in the Soviet Union. They are all pure amateurs whose prowess can be attributed to proper "Communist education" and considered proof of the superiority of the Soviet system and the "new Soviet man."
Soviet athletes surprised even

themselves with their performances at the Olympic Games in Munich, which included winning their first gold medal ever in basketball.

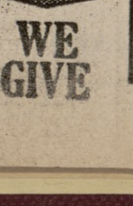
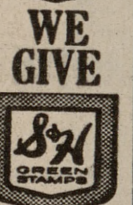
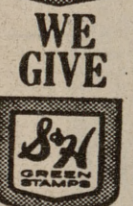
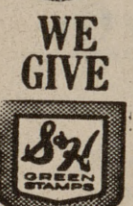
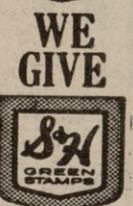
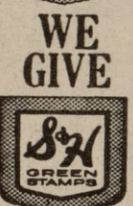
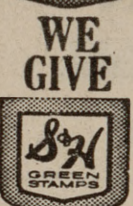
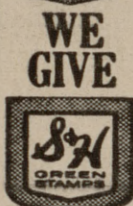
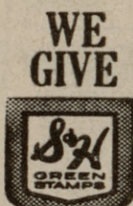
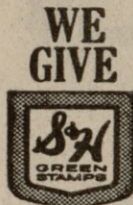
An analysis of the Olympic showing by Radio Liberty disclosed that 162 members of Soviet teams were from army and navy sports clubs directly under control and supervision of DOSAAF, the initials for an organization dedicated to cooperating with the army, navy and air force. DOSAAF is run by an army

general. It has the combined function of selecting and training Soviet athletes.

It just happens that any Soviet athlete of any importance will have been developed and trained at the expense of the state while living high on the Soviet hog and assigned to some snap of a job that won't occupy much of his or her time. These "amateurs" are pampered and privileged in comparison with ordinary Soviet mortals.

The Top Twenty teams, first-place votes in parenthesis season records and total points tabulated on basis of...

1. UCLA (41) 3-0
2. Florida St. 3-0
3. Maryland 3-0
4. Marquette 3-0
5. Minnesota 3-0
6. N.C. St. 4-0
7. Long Beach St. 3-0
8. SW La. 3-0
9. Penn 3-0
10. Oral Roberts 3-0



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