

Oddy's Champions of the Squash World

PROFILE — Samuel P Howe III

Sam Howe was the most beautiful striker of the ball that I have ever seen. If he had his brother Ralph's physical build, there is no telling how many more National Championships he would have won. He pulled possibly the biggest upset in the history of squash when he defeated Ben Heckscher 3-2 in the 1962 Nationals in Buffalo. Sam repeated in Chicago in 1967, when he defeated Bob Hetherington 3-0 and did not lose a game in the tournament.

He won the Cowles, Gold Racquet, Canadian Nationals and, of course, the White many times. He also was a finalist in the 1967 North American Open, when he scored his only victory over Vic Niederhoffer in the semis before losing to his brother Ralph in the five-game final.

Sam's record as a doubles player was perhaps even more impressive than his singles. He won the National Championship with Bill Danforth in 1963, 1964 and 1967. He also won with Ralph in 1969, 1970 and 1971. In 1967, he scored the Grand Slam. He won the singles and doubles championships of both the U. S. and Canada.

All of the above I feel sure you will agree is most impressive. To me, however, one aspect pertaining to Sam Howe was even more impressive, and that was that he set a very fine example to others in his attitude when he lost. I remember a very unlikely loss to Peter Martin in the Gold Racquets final and I remember a National Champion who set an example to all with the poised way he accepted his defeat.

W. Roland Oddy



ROLAND ODDY'S ARTICLE

Labeling Sam Howe's U.S./Canada Singles/Doubles wins the Grand Slam