

49/50WIMBLEDON BREAKS ALL RECORDS

Rackets away! The 63rd Wimbledon is launched! The familiar faces are back again! Lanky Bob Falkenburg, last year's surprise winner, eager to retain his title in this premier among tennis championships! The girls are there too! Pretty Pat Todd leads the American invasion. The Wimbledon magic lures them all - whether they are tennis unknowns - or old favourites like Fred Perry, the last Briton to wear the Wimbledon crown. On to the tennis holy of holies - the centre court - come Ted Schroeder (the Wimbledon favourite with the sailor gait) and tall Gardner Mulloy. A 25,000 record crowd sees the two Americans serve up a game that would well be worthy of the final. Mulloy is nearest the camera.

With his wonder serves and superb returns the 35 year-old Mulloy controls the game at first. Suffering from a bad attack of centre court jitters, Schroeder is outplayed.

Mulloy serves in the third set, after holding on grimly to win the first two.

Schroeder - famous for his fighting come-backs - regains his brilliance and now takes command.

But Mulloy, a lawyer in private life, now uses his best court strategy. Well-placed returns make his Californian opponent lose his poise.

Both men have won two sets and this is the decider. Almost out on their feet, they throw in their last ounce of strength. Mulloy nets a return to give Schroeder a 6-5 lead.

Match point! Mulloy (game to the end) lets one go by and that's it! Schroeder wins.

Victor and vanquished put up the finest contest seen at Wimbledon for years.