

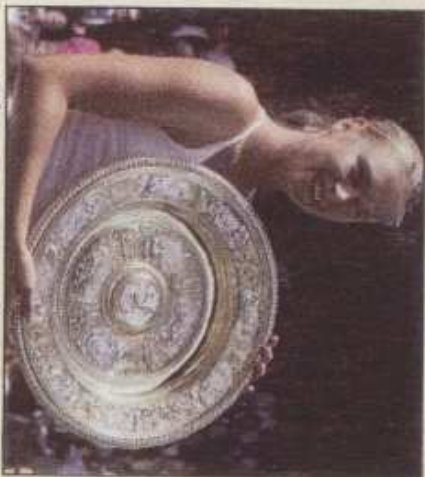
It wasn't all bad

■ Engineers in Florence have built a full-sized model of a three-wheeled automobile designed by Leonardo da Vinci in 1478. For years, researchers were stymied because they couldn't figure out how the carriage was supposed to provide its own power. They ultimately realized that two springs on the vehicle's underside could be coiled by pushing the vehicle backward. The engineers wound the coils, secured them with a rope, and then let fly. The carriage went more than 100 feet before stopping. Because the carriage has a primitive navigation system, robotics expert Mark Rosheim called it "perhaps the first computer ever built in Western civilization."

■ Capping an unlikely lifetime odyssey, 17-year-old Maria

Sharapova won her first Grand Slam title at Wimbledon this weekend, becoming the first Russian to take top honors. Sharapova was just 2 when her family fled the Siberian town of Nygan, after the nuclear accident at Chernobyl.

With just \$700 in his pocket, Sharapova's father moved with her to South Florida, where she got her training at the prestigious Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy. The third-youngest female Wimbledon winner in history, Sharapova walked away with a purse of \$1.02 million. "I never, never in my life expected this to happen so fast," she said.



The new queen of tennis

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■ Denise Cerreta, the owner of the One World Café in Salt Lake City, wanted to shake up her business. So last year she instituted a pay-what-you-can plan. At first, she collected a meager \$60 a day, but now she's raking in up to \$1,000. Some of her customers don't even deal in cash. One self-employed gardener gets his meals in exchange for tending a spice garden in back of the café. Other regulars work off their bills by volunteering for kitchen duty. The profit margin "comes and goes," said Cerreta, "but I'm committed to this working."

Cover illustration by Fred Harper