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30 SECONDS WITH JOHN McENROE

The View at 50: He Can Be Serious

John McEnroe, the three-time Wimbledon and four-time United States Open tennis champion, turned 50 on Feb. 16.

He is using his milestone birthday to challenge men in their 50s to make prostate health awareness a priority. McEnroe and GlaxoSmith-Kline, the pharmaceutical company, will deliver that message in a national campaign that begins on Monday.

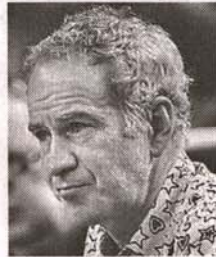
It is a personal mission for McEnroe, whose father is a prostate cancer survivor. There is more information at 50over50challenge.com.

VINCENT M. MALLOZZI

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE 50? Turning 50 is a big milestone. I had trouble with 30, I felt pretty good about 40 because I sort of accepted it, but 50 just sounds so big.

I'm actually feeling good physically, and I'm working out on a regular basis six days a week, three days on the tennis court and three days at the gym, which is really important. In a way, I wish I had been this serious about working out when I was 25.

WHAT DOES JOHN McENROE DO WITH HIS QUIET TIME? Quiet time? I have six kids, so it's not real quiet. It's a responsibility that any parent knows is the most rewarding but can also be the most difficult. I think that with anything, the best chance of success as a parent is to be around your children.



my parents did with me, to take me to the Met or other art galleries. One of the contemporary pieces I own is a painting by Jean-Michel Basquiat. He passed away at 28. He would be the art world's Jimi Hendrix or Kurt Cobain.

NOW THAT YOU'RE PLAYING LESS TENNIS, WHAT HOBBIES FILL YOUR SPARE TIME? I've always been a music lover, I like to try to play the guitar. I'm also a big art collector. I became interested in art in the 1970s, when Vitas Gerulaitis, God rest his soul, took me around SoHo. I really hadn't seen much art as a kid. It wasn't something that

HAVE ANY OF YOUR CHILDREN ASPIRED TO BE PROFESSIONAL TENNIS PLAYERS? Not really. My two boys — they are 22 and 21 now — they played high school tennis and they can play. But I think that everything that went on with me in terms of the behavior thing dissuaded me from pushing them into tennis. I wanted them to do something they liked doing as opposed to being pushed. And I just felt like going to a tournament, and having them hear people say things like 'That's McEnroe's kid; is he going to get upset?' — it just didn't seem like that was the way to go for me. My children also suffer from a case of affluent-za. Hopefully, they'll find what it is that gives them that fire in their bellies.

IS NADAL-FEDERER THE NEW MILLENNIUM'S McENROE-BORG OR McENROE-CONNORS? It's more like me and Borg. With me and Connors, we were always ready to drop the gloves and go. It was never like that with me and Borg, who happened to be one of the few guys I didn't have a problem with. Unlike Connors, with all of his craziness, Borg never did anything wrong, so anything I did against him would be magnified that much worse.



TAYLOR