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MARTINA HINGIS

In just over 3 years, Martina HINGIS, Switzerland's most famous tennis player, has gone from obscurity to stardom. In 1993, at the age of 12, she became the Junior Champion at Roland Garros in Paris. In 1994 she turned professional and was ranked 386th in the world. In 1995 Martina climbed into the top 20 world tennis players and in 1996 into the top 10. Provided she does not "burn out" like so many other young tennis stars did before her, everyone predicts that she could well finish up as number one in the world in the very near future. Martina grew up in a tennis world. Her mother, Mélanie is an ex-Czech tennis champion who had planned to turn Martina into a tennis star from the moment she was born. For a start, Mélanie called her daughter Martina as a tribute to Martina Navratilova. At the age of 2, Martina Hingis, who now lives in Trübbach, was given her first tennis racquet. At the age of 4, she played her first tournament. Apart from being a top class tennis player, Martina is also very attractive, which is more than can be said about most of her competitors. So Martina has everything in her hands to succeed and to please her public, as long as she does not get mentally destroyed by the tyranny of professional tennis.

DOWNFALL

Hans W. Kopp, lawyer and husband of Elisabeth Kopp, ex-Federal Councilor, has been debarred, following a decision by the Swiss Federal Court who felt that he was no longer fit to exercise his profession as a lawyer. Because of his dubious activities, Kopp first destroyed his wife's political career and finally his own as a lawyer as well.

Ordinary citizens, who try to make an honest living under very difficult circumstances, can hardly understand why people such as Hans Kopp who have achieved wealth and a high standing in society, still try to get more out of life (Kopp was apparently earning more than one million dollars a year with his wife not far behind him) to the point of dabbling in dubious activities simply to rake in even more money. Hans Kopp

will certainly not earn any sympathy from the average Swiss citizens.

NOTE TO SECRETARIES

Next issue of the Helvetia magazine: JULY/AUGUST 1996. All contributions must be in by 15 June. Many thanks for your kind cooperation.

IMMIGRATION TO NEW ZEALAND

Obtaining a New Zealand permanent residence permit or a work permit has become much more difficult since the immigration policy changes introduced by the Government in November of 1995.

If you already hold a residence permit you may be eligible to sponsor a family member to obtain a residence permit.

For specialist legal assistance with any residency/temporary permit/citizenship application, or any other legal matters, please contact:

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