



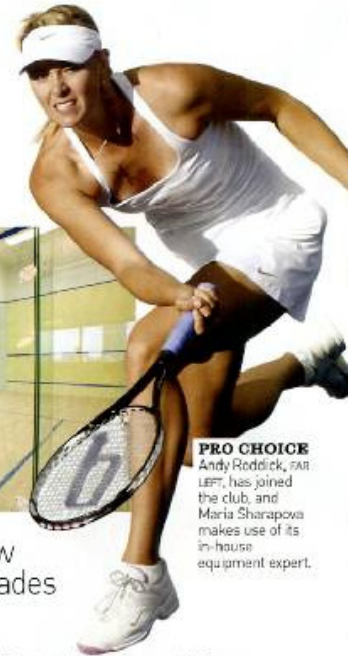
REGIMEN

STAR CHAMBERS
CityView club members have their pick of seven green-clay tennis courts and four squash courts, including one for doubles.

coming up aces



All the buzz surrounding New York's first tennis club in decades is causing quite a racket.



PRO CHOICE
Andy Roddick, FAR LEFT, has joined the club, and Maria Sharapova makes use of its in-house equipment expert.

As if losing the right to smoke in bars and gorge on fatty foods weren't enough, New Yorkers have been deprived of another simple pleasure—tennis—as courts from the Hudson

to the East River are replaced by McCondos. Well, no longer. **CityView Racquet Club**, the first tennis facility built in New York City in more than 20 years, serves up an 80,000-square-foot rooftop mecca in Long Island City that offers the perks of a WASPY country club (seven green-clay tennis courts, four squash courts, and, of course,

a bar with tennis-elbow-curing G&Ts) without any of the pastel pretense. Andy Roddick has already joined—his name's on locker No. 25—and membership (\$2,600 to \$4,000 annually) will max out at just a few hundred to ensure there's always a court open. "CityView has been great for me since spending more time in NYC," Roddick says as he gears up for the U.S. Open. "The courts, gym, and spa make it a perfect place for me to train."

In just one afternoon at the \$12 million complex—a 20-minute drive or subway ride from Midtown Manhattan—you can have your racket personally strung by tennis emeritus Roman Prokes (who customizes rackets for Maria Sharapova and John

McEnroe), demo new models from Prince, Wilson, and Dunlop that won't be in stores for months, play a set on one of the climate-controlled courts, take a lesson from a nationally ranked pro who will fix everything from your overhead slam to the way you charge the net (or, um, the way you don't), get a massage at the in-house White Tea Spa that erases all physical and psychic pain, relax in a sauna looking out onto the Manhattan skyline, and finally head upstairs to the bar to nosh on yellowfin tuna tartare and wild mushroom chèvre crostini. If that all sounds like too much time away from the office, don't despair: There's Wi-Fi in the lounge. Game on!

—HUDSON MORGAN



string theory

Armed with one of these rackets, you'll have at least something in common with the pros.

1. **Wilson [K] Six.One Tour:** Roger Federer's weapon of destruction; \$199.
2. **Prince O3 Speedport Black:** Large vents in the frame give your swing more velocity—just ask the Bryan brothers; \$220.
3. **Wilson [K] Blade Tour:** A small head and tighter strings make this the perfect racquet for control freaks like Novak Djokovic; \$199.

Credits: from top, left: Mike Groll; (2) Paul Buckle/Getty Images; (3) Dennis W. Skarzynski/Corbis

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