



sonal warm up sale of 20% off and coming in all sizes including petite and a multitude of colors.

At Players World of Sport (Plaza at Shelter Cove), check out the New Balance shoes, especially the New Balance 1001 ("our #1-selling shoe"). It has extreme cushioning and comes in narrow and wide range of sizes. Price: \$85 with your islander discount.

Van der Meer Tennis on DeAllyon Road (off Cordillo) features the Kaelin line and wants you to especially have a look at the sleeveless vests in several color combinations at \$89.

Van der Meer Shipyard, along with clothing and racquet lines, has a small-gift special item: the SpeedBall. These oversized, colorful sponge balls are a great teaching tool, especially for beginning players to get the feel of play – whether juniors or adults. SpeedBalls are three for \$9.99.

Palmetto Dunes Tennis Center still has the feel of a bright new shop, with lots of colors. Nothing is more colorful than its Jetpak tennis bags "that are flying off the shelves." These come in floral prints, animal prints and other designs and can carry one

or two racquets with a bevy of accessory pockets. Prices run from \$49.99 to \$69.99. PD has caps– lots and lots and lots of caps, including those from the new line of "Life Is Good" tees and accessories.

South Beach Racquet Club is especially pleased with its new grouping of Tech Shock women's clothing – shock as in shocking pink and black warmups, shirts, styled tops and skirts. The skirts run \$50 and tops are \$52.

Individual clubs have smaller shops but offer a variety of apparel such as logo shirts, shorts, caps and other accessories. Or you could go to Chocolate Canopy (Crossroads Shopping Center) and get a couple chocomold racquets and balls.

The "slow" season may find your playing buddies off-island just when you want to hit some. Put your name on the various club "Need-a-Game" books. Visiting players on HHI for the holidays can call you for a game.

**Take It From a Pro –** a Gift Tip: Every tennis player has some kind of playing "hitch" of which he/she is mostly likely unaware. A quirky service toss, a funky sidestep, a wasteful swing motion, whatever, that cries for professional help. Thus, the best tennis present: a certificate for a series of lessons. Every club offers them and, with the plethora of quality pros on HHI, this is a can't-miss gift.

– Dennis Malick

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