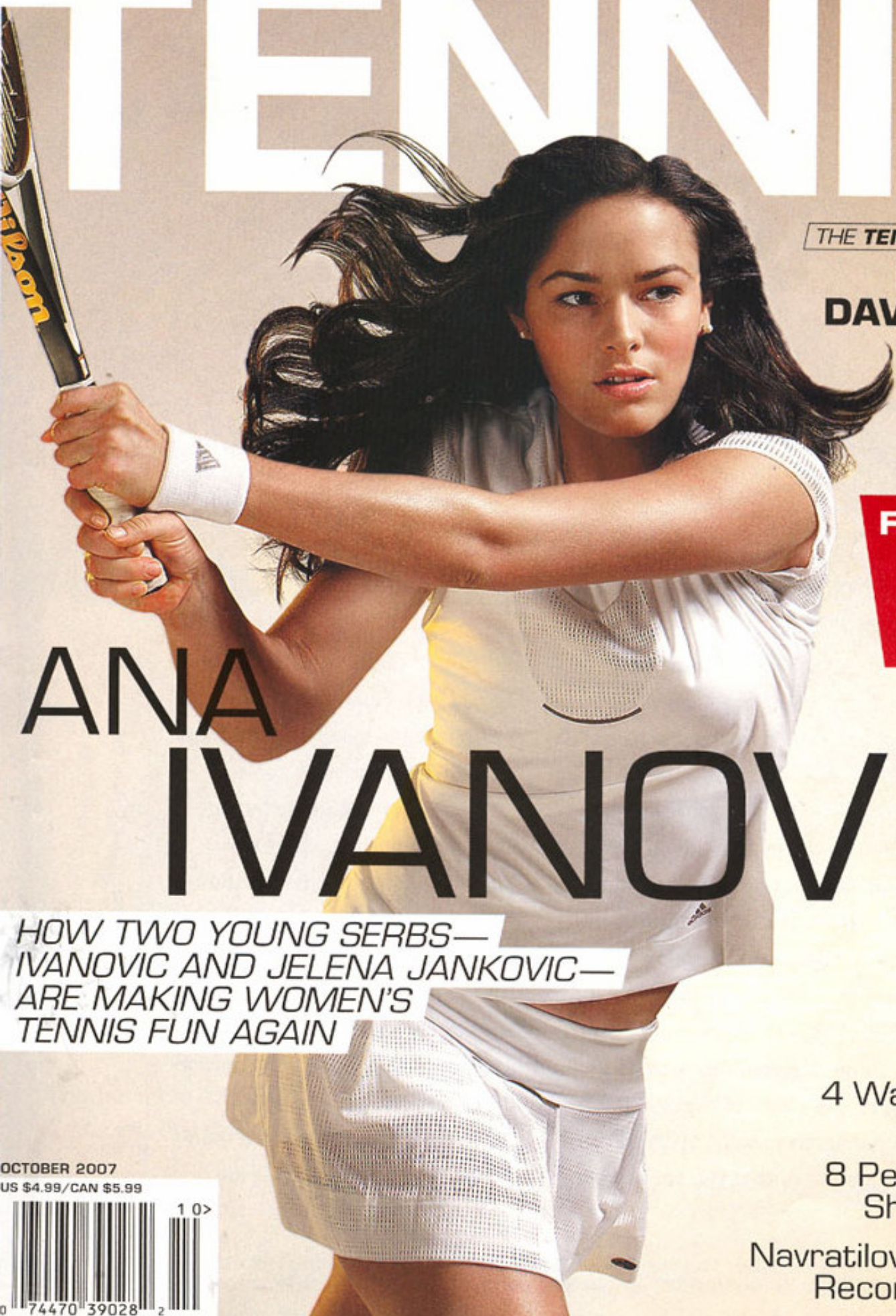


FALL STYLE GUIDE 17 WINNING LOOKS

# TENNIS



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The lack of clean water for Ugandan children inspired Kriek to build a well there.

## Thirst Quencher

For developing nations, clean water is in short supply. Former Top 10 player Johan Kriek wants to help change that

Johan Kriek has found a life mission, and it has little to do with tennis. The two-time Australian Open champion started the Global Water Foundation in July 2006 to help fund sanitation programs and provide water to people in impoverished nations. "Kemal Dervis, head of the United Nations Development Program, recently called the lack of clean water the gravest threat to sustainable human development," Kriek says, explaining his concern over the issue.

A visit to his native South Africa during a business trip in 2005 raised Kriek's awareness of the problem. He went to the World Economic

Forum in Cape Town and learned that women throughout Africa often have to walk miles just to get water from unsanitary holes. He also found out that more than 2 million kids in developing countries die each year from diseases related to tainted water and poor sanitation.

"A couple of us decided to put our heads together, and I started the organization," says the 49-year-old Naples, Fla., resident. The foundation's first project, which cost about \$50,000, was the creation of a well in Uganda that's providing water for 15,000 people. The well is solar powered to avoid damaging the environment.

"Those kids have clean water for the first time," says Kriek, who won



Kriek

14 singles titles in his 14-year pro career. "It's extremely gratifying when there's no water and you drill a well that just costs \$50,000, and suddenly there are [thousands of] healthy kids. We can build all the schools we want, but if people don't have a healthy water supply, they can't live."

Kriek also wants to help educate Americans to stop wasting so much water. "Just by turning off our taps in the morning when we brush our teeth, we can save

### Kriek's not the first pro tennis player to do major charity work

- > **Andre Agassi** created a school for at-risk kids in Las Vegas.
- > **Andrea Jaeger** founded the Little Star Foundation, in Aspen, Colo., for sick and needy children.
- > **Evonne Goolagong Cawley** runs tennis programs in Australia for Aboriginal kids and young girls.
- > **Nduka Odizor** does coaching clinics and donates gear to players in his native Nigeria.

so much," he says. Kriek has commissioned his tennis buddies John McEnroe, Jim Courier, Henri Leconte, and Kevin Curren as ambassadors for his foundation. He hopes to involve more players to champion his cause. —DAN WEIL