

## Miss Goolagong remembers

LONDON, Friday (AAP). — Evonne Goolagong will never forget the day she was called a "nigger" on the tennis court at White City or the time a cartoon depicting her in the nude upset her game at Wimbledon.

Then there was the time she and a few friends set a wheat field alight in her home town, Barellan, NSW, while playing with matches.

Miss Goolagong has revealed these and other stories in her autobiography 'Evonne' to be published in Britain in June, coinciding

with the Wimbledon championships.

She has also spoken out strongly on the Aboriginal question in the book, written in collaboration with American tennis writer Bud Collins.

Of the Aborigines, she says, "We are aliens in our own country. Another civilisation has taken over and we are second-class citizens".

She recalls partnering her coach's daughter, Trisha Edwards, in a doubles match for White City when she was 16.

They had just beaten their opponents and as they were walking off the court

one of the defeated women said, "That's the first time I ever lost to a nigger".

Miss Goolagong says that when her coach, Vic Edwards, heard about it he was "very upset" and he received an apologetic telephone call from the club president, who said the

phone call from the club president, who said the woman would never again play for their team.

"I'll probably never see that woman again but if I do I'll know her", Miss Goolagong says. "Here is a face I'll never forget".

The book traces her entry into tennis from the days in Barellan when she used to

bash a ball against a brick wall.

On one of the early days when she was not at the wall she was down in the field of ripe wheat with a few playmates.

They were playing with matches and suddenly there was a fire.

"It's very bad form to burn up the leading product of the town you live in", she says.

She writes that at Wimbledon in 1972, when she was the reigning champion after beating Margaret Court the year before, she was wondering why all the male

players were calling her "Cuddly" on the first day.

She had missed a cartoon in the morning in the *The Sun*, London, depicting her "in the altogether".

She says it made her feel "all funny" and she felt like returning to Sydney.

"It didn't help my tennis", she comments.

She later found out that the cartoon was part of a series called "The naked truth of sport".

A spokesman for the book's publishers, Hart-Davis MacGibbon Ltd, said

book's publishers, Hart-Davis MacGibbon Ltd, said it would be on sale in Australia by the end of September.