

[54] **THIGH PROTECTOR**  
 [75] **Inventor: Eugene J. Vacanti, Edina, Minn.**  
 [73] **Assignee: Sports Marketing, Inc., Eden Prairie, Minn.**  
 [\*\*] **Term: 14 Years**  
 [21] **Appl. No.: 408,856**  
 [22] **Filed: Aug. 17, 1982**  
 [52] **U.S. Cl. .... D2/27**  
 [58] **Field of Search ..... D2/27; 2/2, 16, 22-24, 2/420, 434, 450**

3,909,847 10/1975 Holt et al. .  
 3,994,023 11/1976 Aileo et al. .  
 3,999,220 12/1976 Keltner .  
 4,023,209 5/1977 Frieder, Jr. et al. .  
 4,120,052 10/1978 Butler .  
 4,204,373 5/1980 Davidson .  
 4,290,149 9/1981 Aileo .  
 4,324,012 4/1982 Cannaday .  
 4,325,148 4/1982 Livernois .

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

Rawlings Sporting Goods Co., St. Louis, '81 Fall & Winter Catalog, p. 14, item 14KV.  
 Photographs—A Helmet Pad manufactured by Riddel, Chicago, Illinois, under U.S. Pat. No. 3,248,738.

*Primary Examiner*—Jane E. Corrigan  
*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Burd, Bartz & Gutenkauf

[56] **References Cited**  
**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

1,744,384 1/1930 Hood .  
 1,767,372 6/1930 King ..... 2/22  
 1,772,923 8/1930 Volz ..... 2/22  
 1,784,148 12/1930 Levinson ..... 2/2  
 1,991,721 2/1935 Becket et al. .... 2/2  
 2,609,537 9/1952 Pfaff .  
 2,818,571 1/1958 Grant .  
 3,044,075 7/1962 Rawlings .  
 3,088,115 5/1963 Groot .  
 3,248,738 5/1966 Morgan .  
 3,257,666 6/1966 Hoffman .  
 3,307,318 3/1967 Bauman .  
 3,327,449 6/1967 Hullhorst et al. .  
 3,344,433 10/1967 Stapenhill .  
 3,784,984 1/1974 Aileo .  
 3,897,596 8/1975 Aileo et al. .

[57] **CLAIM**  
 The ornamental design for a thigh protector, as shown and described.

**DESCRIPTION**

FIG. 1 is a front, top and right side perspective view of a thigh protector showing my new design;  
 FIG. 2 is a front elevational view;  
 FIG. 3 is a left side elevational view;  
 FIG. 4 is a right side elevational view;  
 FIG. 5 is a rear elevational view;  
 FIG. 6 is a top plan view; and  
 FIG. 7 is a bottom plan view.



