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Calderone

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- (54) **SLIP ON ATHLEISURE SHOE**
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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.
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(51) **Int. Cl.**
A43B 11/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **36/50.1; 36/51**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **36/50.1, 36/51, 54**

See application file for complete search history.

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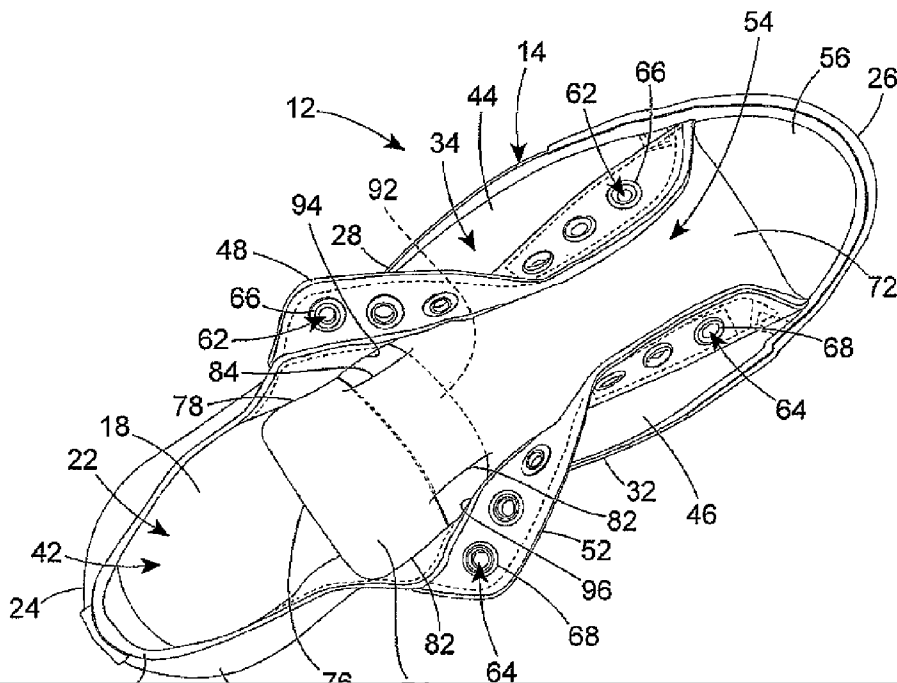
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A construction of an oxford type, lace up athleisure shoe enables the shoe to be slipped on the wearers foot and held securely on the foot without the need for lacing on the shoe. This provides the shoe with the appearance of a lace up shoe that is worn without lacing.

6 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets



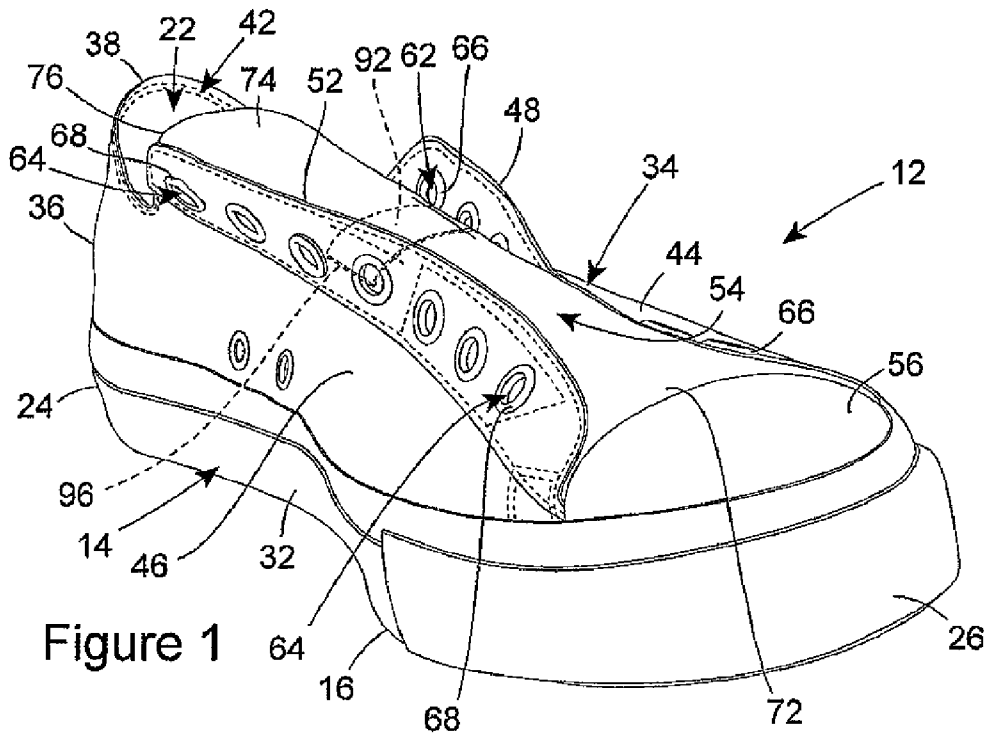


Figure 1

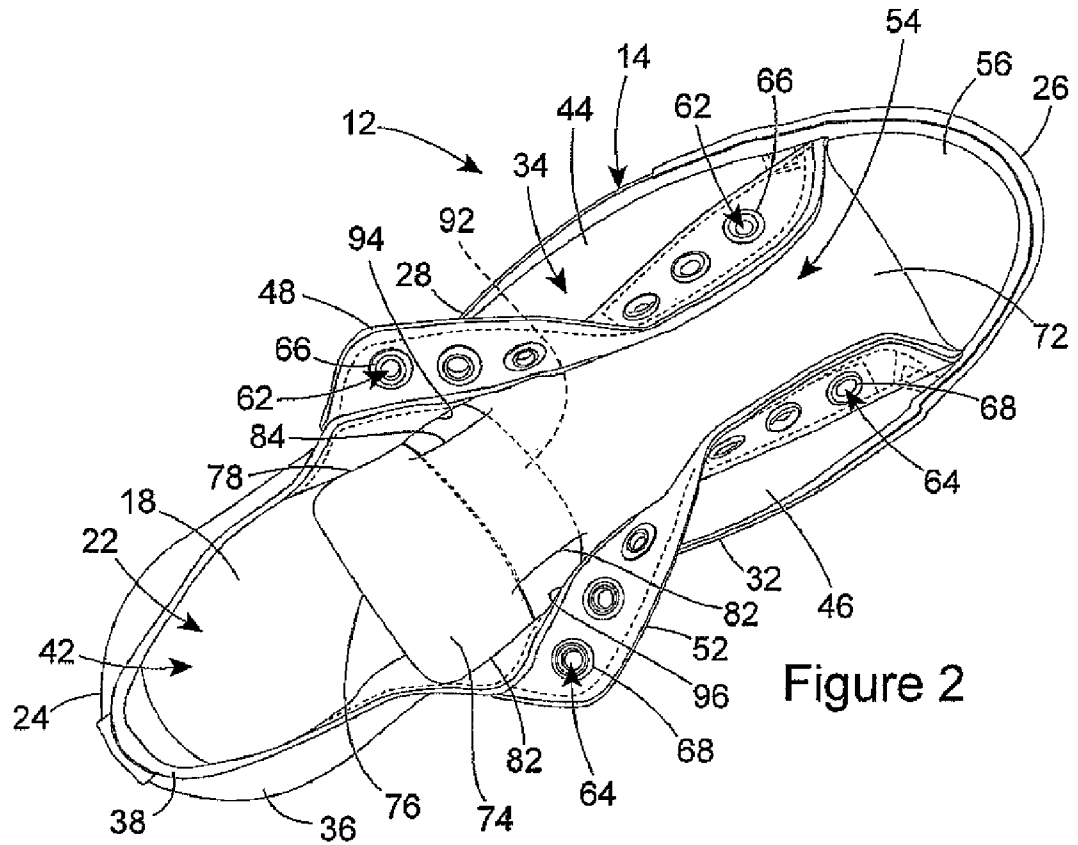


Figure 2

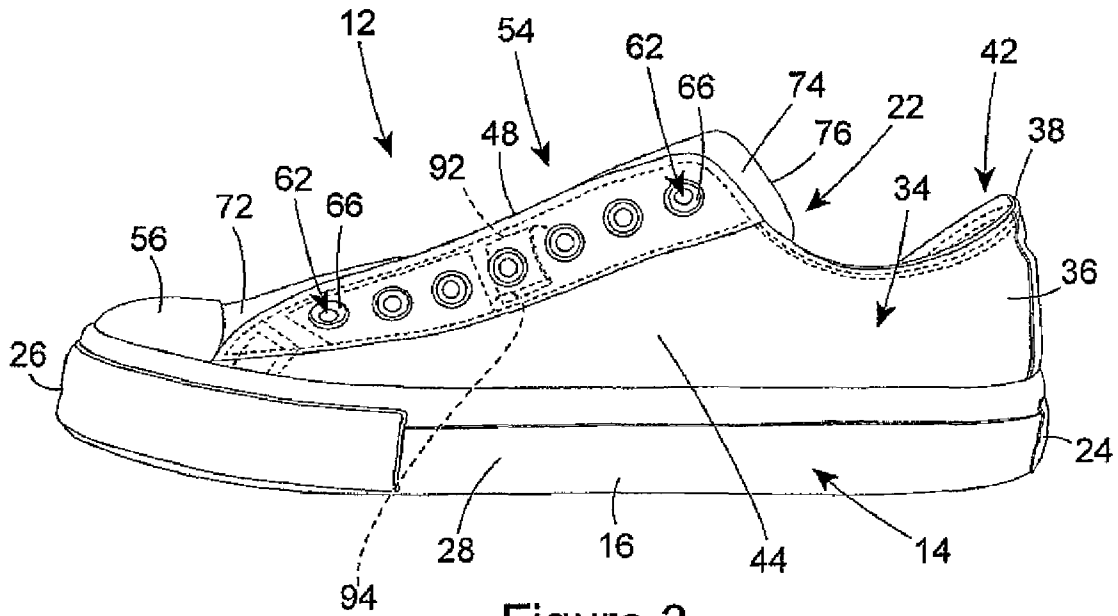


Figure 3

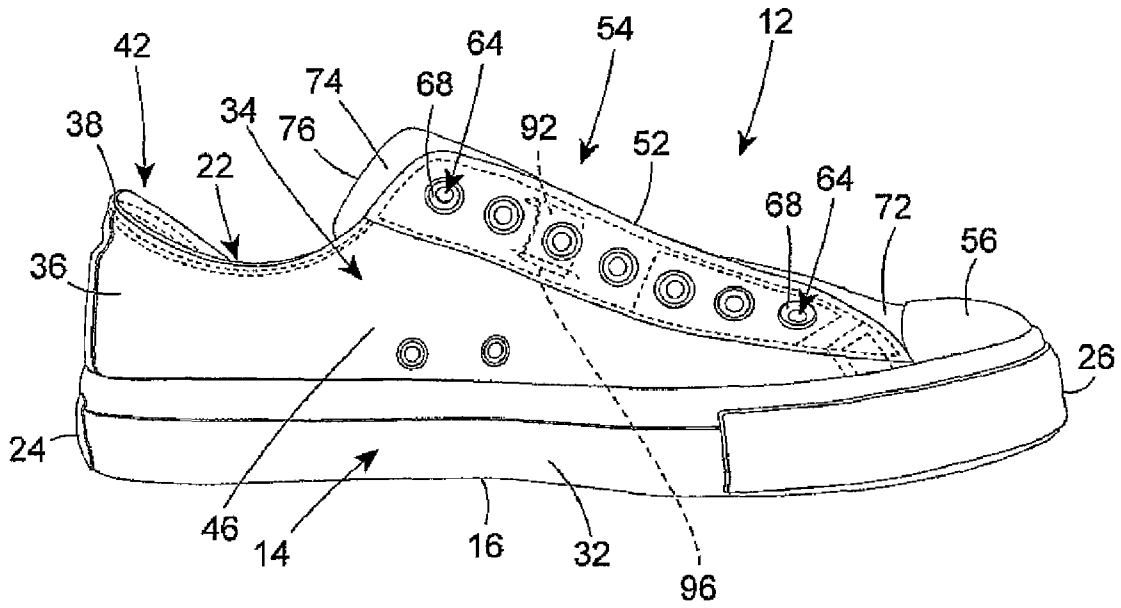


Figure 4

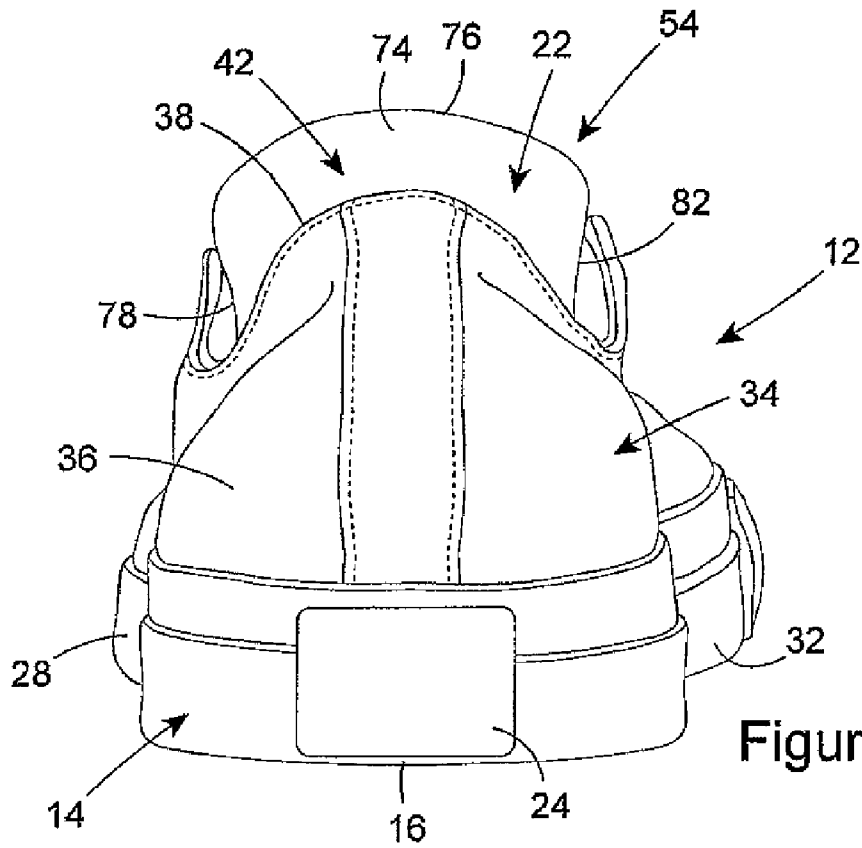


Figure 5

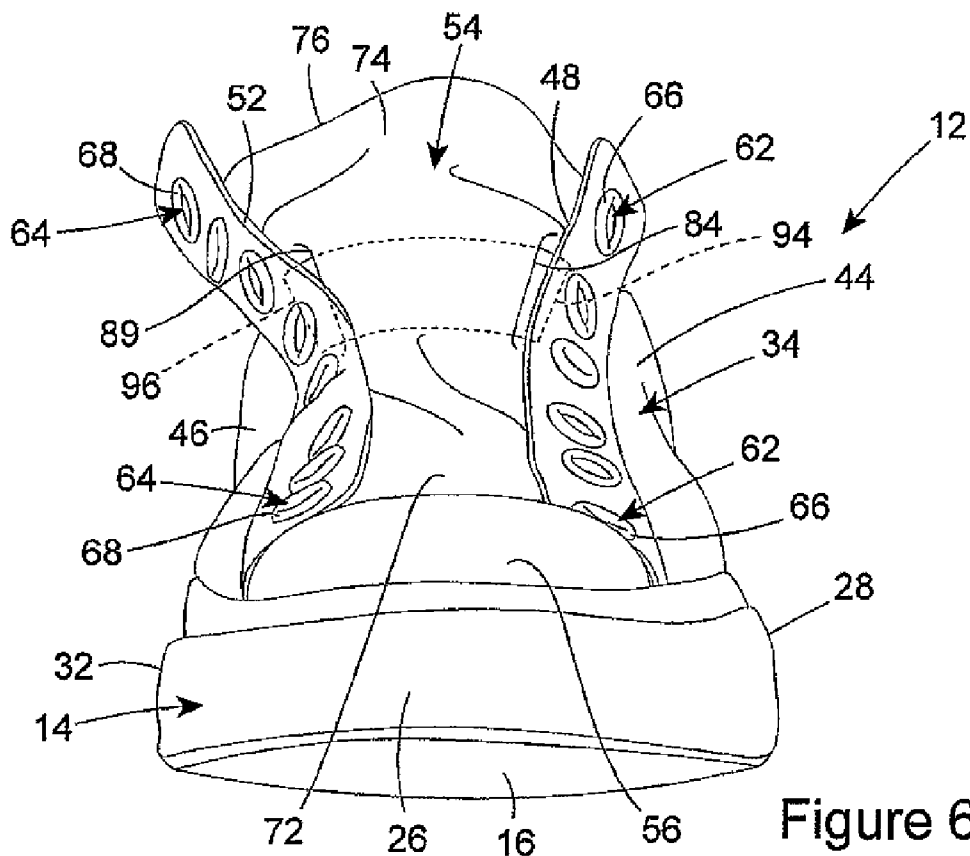


Figure 6

SLIP ON ATHLEISURE SHOE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/416,727, filed May 3, 2006 now U.S. Pat. No. 7,552,547, entitled "SLIP ON ATHLEISURE SHOE", the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(1) Field of the Invention

The present invention pertains to a novel construction of an oxford type, lace up athleisure shoe. The novel construction of the shoe enables the shoe to be slipped on the wearer's foot and held securely on the foot without the need for lacing on the shoe. This provides the shoe with a unique and novel appearance of a lace up shoe that is worn without lacing.

(2) Description of the Related Art

The oxford lace up basketball shoe has been a very popular shoe for athletics, in particular basketball for many years. In addition to use for athletics, the shoe has also become very popular as a comfortable casual shoe, or athleisure shoe. This is particularly true of the oxford lace up basketball shoe that has an upper constructed of a breathable fabric, for example canvas.

Efforts to further improve the comfort of the shoe have lead to considering wearing the oxford lace up basketball shoe without lacing. However, although the shoe provides a comfortable fit around the wearers foot even without lacing, wearing the shoe without lacing presents the problem of the shoe slipping off the wearer's foot during walking or running.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention overcomes the problem of wearing oxford lace up basketball shoes without lacing. The invention provides a novel modification to this type of shoe that holds the shoe on the wearer's foot without the need for lacing. The athleisure shoe of the invention has the same construction as the popular oxford lace up basketball shoe, but without the lacing typically provided on the shoe. The lacing openings or eyelet openings on the shoe are left open, with there being no lacing on the shoe.

The shoe is modified with a band that is connected to the left side and right side of the shoe upper and extends across the shoe forefoot opening. The band is positioned just forward of the ankle opening of the upper to allow for easy insertion of the wearer's foot into the shoe. With the wearer's foot inserted in the shoe, the band extends across the wearer's forefoot, thereby securely holding the shoe on the foot. In the preferred embodiment, the band has at least one elastic portion that allows the band to be stretched. This allows the left side and right side of the shoe upper and the shoe tongue to be separated from each other to provide ample room for insertion of the foot into the shoe. The band is concealed by the upper and the tongue of the shoe so that the band is not visible when the shoe is worn.

The modification of the oxford lace up basketball shoe provided by the invention enables the athleisure shoe to be worn without lacing, and provides the shoe with the appear-

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Further features of the invention are set forth in the following detailed description of the preferred embodiment of the invention, and in the following drawing figures wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the front of a left shoe of the invention, with the right shoe of the invention having a construction that is a mirror image duplicate of the left shoe construction;

FIG. 2 is a plan view of the shoe of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a left side elevation view of the shoe of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a right side elevation view of the shoe of FIG. 1;

FIG. 5 is a rear elevation view of the shoe of FIG. 1; and,

FIG. 6 is a front elevation view of the shoe of FIG. 1.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

The slip on oxford athleisure shoe **12** of the present invention has the basic construction of an oxford lace up basketball shoe. The exception is that the novel construction of the shoe **12** enables the shoe to be securely worn on the foot without lacing, as will be explained. In the preferred embodiment of the shoe shown in the drawing figures, the shoe is an oxford basketball shoe. However, it should be understood that the novel concept of the invention could be employed on other types of lace up shoes that are desired to be worn without lacing and without altering the appearance of the lace up shoe. Because much of the construction of the shoe **12** of the invention is the same as that of a conventional oxford lace up shoe, the conventional features of the construction will be described generally.

The shoe **12** has a shoe sole **14** that is constructed of resilient materials that are typically employed in the constructions of the soles of athletic shoes. The sole **14** can be constructed with an outsole, a midsole, and an insert, as is typical. The shoe sole **14** has a bottom surface **16** that functions as the traction surface of the shoe, and an opposite top surface **18** in the interior **22** of the shoe. The size of the shoe **12** has a length that extends from a rear heel end **24** to a front toe end **26** of the sole, and the shoe **12** has a width between a left side **28** and a right side **32** of the shoe sole.

The shoe upper **34** is secured to the shoe sole **14** extending upwardly from the shoe sole top surface **18**, as is conventional. The upper **34** is constructed of a flexible material, for example leather or fabric. The upper **34** is constructed with a heel portion **36** that extends around the shoe sole top surface **18** at the shoe sole heel end **24**. The upper heel portion **36** extends upwardly from the shoe sole **18** to a collar edge **38** of the upper that defines an ankle opening **42** into the shoe interior **22**.

From the heel portion **36**, the upper has a left side **44** and a right side **46** that extend forwardly along the respective shoe sole left side **28** and shoe sole right side **32**. The upper left side **44** extends upwardly from the shoe sole left side **28** to an upper left side edge **48**. The upper right side **46** extends upwardly from the shoe sole right side **32** to an upper right side edge **52**. As seen in the drawing figures, the upper left side edge **48** and the upper right side edge **52** extend forwardly from opposite sides of the upper collar edge **38** toward the front toe end **26** of the shoe sole. The length of the upper left side edge **48** and the upper right side edge **52** define a forefoot opening **54** in the shoe upper **34** that opens to the shoe interior **22**.

The upper **34** is also constructed with a toe box **56** that

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