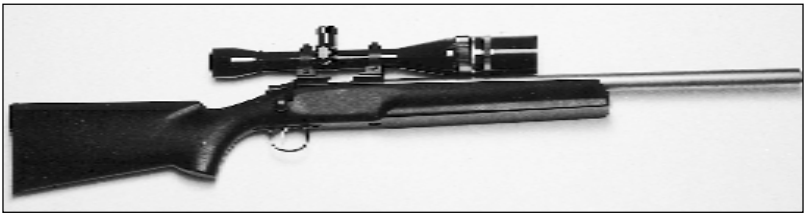
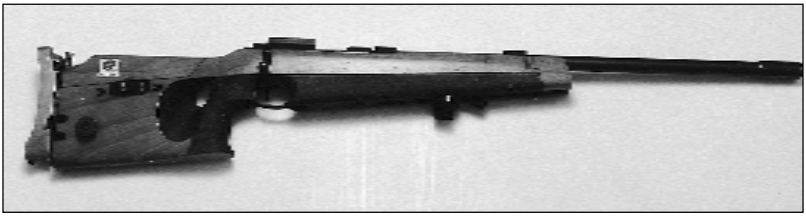
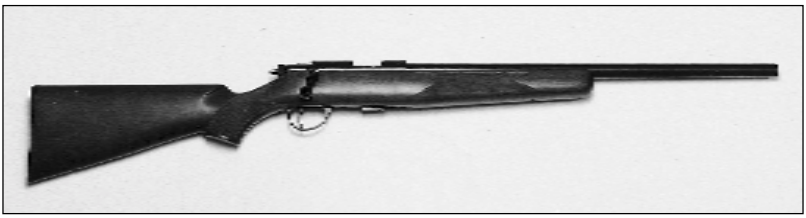


Above: The Cooper Model 36 BR-50.



Above: The Walther GX-1 free rifle.



Above: The KFS NS 522 bolt action.

The Test Guns

We used three bolt-action .22 LR models for this test: A Cooper Model 36 BR-50, an NS 522, and a Walther GX-1.

The Cooper is an $1,850 benchrest model marketed for use in competition BR-50 matches. It comes with a Jewell two-stage adjustable trigger, a rubber Pachmayr recoil pad, a competition step crown, twin extractors on the bolt face, and a free-floated, glass-bedded 22-inch stainless barrel. It has a match chamber and a 1-in-16 twist. Also, it has a black synthetic benchrest stock with a square forend and no cheekpiece. It weighs 6.8 pounds.

The Walther GX-1 is an out-of-production free rifle. It weighs 12 pounds 9 ounces and measures $43^{5}/_{16}$ inches in overall length. It has a 25.5-inch blued barrel, a fully adjustable trigger, a walnut stock with adjustable buttplate and cheekpiece, and other accessories. On the used-rifle market, it sells for between $750 and $900 dollars, depending on its condition.

The Chinese-made NS 522 bolt action is a $300 rimfire with an overall length of 39.5 inches and a weight of 7.75 pounds unloaded. The 21-inch blued barrel is hammer forged and free floated. The NS 522 comes with a detachable five-round clip and an integral 3/8-inch dovetail groove on the receiver for mounting a scope. It's imported by KFS, Inc. A full review of the gun appears later in this issue