LONDON, Aug 12 After one final salute to a stage he has graced for 18 years. Viv Richards tucked his bat under his arm and

embarked on the long, last walk, reports Reuter. For half a minute one of the world's greatest batsmen had thought about nothing other than that his dismissal was a potentially catastrophic blow

to the West Indies' hopes of saving the fifth Test against England. Then it suddenly dawned on him - never again would he make the return trip in

cricket's ultimate contest Richards turned 180 degrees, held his cap in one hand, his bat in the other and acknowledged 17,000 Oval spectators who were paying wonderful tribute to him.

England's players had been delighted to see the back of the 39-year-old Antiguan after a fit-por-a-king innings of 60. But, to a man, they joined in the rapturous applause.

Fast bowler Phillip DeFreitas, racing in from the outfield to congratulate successful bowler David Lawrence, even changed route to shake Richards' hand. Richards may already have

forgotten just who did the hand-shaking. But he will always remember the gesture. Before this match began he vowed there would be no sad-

ness, no tears. He just wanted to enjoy his final Test before retirement. His record speaks for itself:

121 Tests, 8,540 runs, 24 centuries, average 50.23. Highest score: 291, aptly on the same ground 15 years ago. Only India's Sunil Gavaskar

and Australia's Allan Border have amassed more Test runs. But, just in case heart ruled

head during that long trek back, the West Indies captain pulled his cherished maroon cap over his eyes and never looked up again until he reached the sanctuary of the American nightmare continues

HAVANA, Aug 12: The Pan

American Games turned into a

near nightmare for the United

States Sunday when Cuba's

baseballers beat them in the

most eagerly awaited contest

of the Games and the Ame-

ricans dropped the baton in

the men's 100 meters relay.

to go further ahead of the

United States in gold medals.

It left the hosts poised to re-

place the United States for the

first time since the inaugural

Games 40 years ago at the

The athletics events ended

head of the gold medals table.

Sunday with Cuba winning 18

nine, while Mexico and Brazil

were equal third on six gold

that Cuba had won more gold

medals than the US in athlet-

Cubans have won in events

form the 100 meters to the

marathon and the high jump to

hosts, the Cubans, who had

won the opening event, the

marathon, also took the last

athletic event when they

In a fitting finale for the

It was the first time ever

Over the past week the

gold medals, the United States

The setbacks allowed Cuba

reports Reuter.

medals.

the javelin.



Vivian Richards . . . the king plays his last Test

RICHARDS' CAREER DETAILS

LONDON, Aug 12: Viv Richards' career details after his 182nd final Test innings at the Oval on Sunday :

Runs: 8,540 (average 50.23)

Oval, 1976)

average of 51.12. 2. Allan Border (Australia) 9,257 125 3. Viv Richards (West Indies)

Tests: 121 (debut 1974)

Centuries: 24 (highest score 291, against England at the

Leading Test run-scorers: 1. Sunil Gavaskar (India) 10,122 runs from 125 Tests at an

8,540 121 50.23 4. Geoff Boycoot (England) 8,114 108 47.72 5. David Gower (England) 8,081 114 44.15 dressing room.

The applause went on and on, dozens of spectators and stewards tried to pat him on the back and several succeeded. But Richards just kept on walking.

Thanks Viv. we'll miss you," read a banner strung on the balcony of a nearby building. No one will argue.

The ovation at the end of his innings stifled any immedi-

ate sadness felt by Richards. "There was a moment of disappointment but then came the realisation of what the

moment meant. "Hearing that ovation, hearing people saying "Thank you," helped drown the sense of sorrow I felt after being out.

"It's a feeling every sportsman would love to have." He also paid tribute to the England players, several o whom shook his hand. "I would

like to say thank you to them." "I would like to have gone on to a hundred. But the great 'don' (Bradman) went for a duck and I was determined

not to do that," he added.

Bradman, the greatest of all batsmen, was out second ball on his farewell here in 1948. Richards said his bat twisted slightly when was

caught by Hugh Morris at midon off the bowling of Lawrence. "I wanted to hit it a bit

straighter," he said. The West Indian captain

forecast a close finish to the match. "We have a game on our hands. If we get another 100

anything could happen." he

"Richie (Richardson) is still playing well. We'll make England fight for it."

Richardson paid his own tribute to the departing cap-

"It was a lovely feeling batting with Viv in his last Test. was disappointed when he got

"It will be a hard act to fol-

Capriati climbs the rankings



12 : American Jennifer Capriati improved her world ranking to No 7 on Sunday by trouncing Bulgarian Ketering

tournament, reports AP. The win followed last Sunday's three-set breakthrough against Yugoslav teenager Monica Seles in the final of the Mazda Classic in San Diegon.

Malecva 6-2, 6-3 in the final

of the Player's Challenge tennis

Capriati's US dirs 100,000 first prize was the biggest payday of her 17-month-old professional career, surpassing the dlrs 86,000 from her Wimbledon semifinal appearance.

The victory lifted Capriati. 15, above Jana Novotna in the world standings, five places above her ranking before Wimbledon and three above where she was just two weeks

"I don't really have anyone in particular who I want to beat really badly," said Capriati, the Toronto tournament's third seed. "I just want to beat them all.

"I'd like to be No 1 some time. I don't care when, just some time. I've looked at the rankings and five, six and seven are really close at the moment, so it won't take much to change in those places."

Capriati now will return to her Florida home to prepare for the US Open starting Aug

Capriati and the fourth-

seeded Maleeva each advanced to the final after injury-related

Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere. But Sunday's match was no



in Sunday's final of the Canadian Open meet in Toronto. retirements from semifinal

opponents Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina and Bulgarian

played very well. I was hitting my groundstrokes solid, nice and deep, and I was serving well. My confidence was up all week after beating Monica.

I knew Katerina was a

good player and I was expecting a tough match. But I played so well and was in control that

much, there wasn't really time for it to be close." Maleeva beat Capriati at their only previous meeting in Tokyo last September, but could not get into a rhythm

Sunday. "It was just one of those

days," Maleeva said. "Sometimes you wake up and you play great; other days you From the first game of the

match, the signs were bad for Maleeva. Dictating play from the baseline, Capriati rarely allowed Maleeva to come to the net Capriati broke Maleeva's

first service game after one deuce point, and after breaking at 15 in the third and fifth games, led 5-0. Maleeva broke back in the

sixth game, conceding just one point, and held to 2-5, but the American served out strongly

in the eighth.
The pair exchanged service breaks to start the second set, then Capriati broke again and held serve for a 3-1 lead.

Maleeva then she served two successive double-faults to drop the fifth game. Leading 5-

1. Capriati lost two match points in the seventh game and dropped her serve in the eighth before breaking again to win the match.

he broke Sampras' serve was

in the 10 th game of the third

set, when Forget returned a

triple match point serve for a

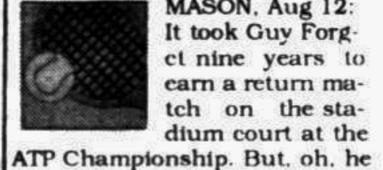
turning well," said Sampras.

who beat second-ranked

"I started off real well, re-

winner.

Forget fulfils a long promise cracked the top 10 rankings. ing shot. The only other time



MASON, Aug 12: It took Guy Forget nine years to carn a return match on the stadium court at the

did it in style, reports AP. As a promising teen-ager from France, he lost to John McEnroe in 1982. Forget didn't speak enough English to fully understand as McEnroe harangued a linesman, but the incident is fresh in his mind.

"It was my first pro tournament where I really did well," Forget said.

"I beat Roscoe Tanner, who was 11th in the world at the time. Every match was a surprise. I was in the quarterfinals, playing McEnroe in the center court, and I was so excited just to be there."

In his triumphant return Sunday, Forget beat US Open champion Pete Sampras 2-6. 7-6 (7-4), 6-4 for the most prestigious title of his career.

"To win on that same court is a very special moment, Forget said, "to be on that court and win a tournament. where before to play just one match was the biggest joy of

The victory was a breakthrough for his countrymen. No French player had ever beaten an American in the final of a men's tournament in the United States. Not since Yannick Noah beat Argentinian Guillermo Vilas at the WCT Tournament of Champions at Forest Hills in 1986 had a Frenchman won any tournament in the US.

With dirs 2.5 million in career earnings. Forget has made a comfortable living playing tennis. But until the past few months, he never realized the expectations placed on him a decade ago.

The dlrs 170,200 ATP check was the biggest of his career for the 26-year-old, who has played on the French Davis Cup and Olympic teams.

"The hard thing is just to go

into a tournament thinking. I'm going to go through hell this week, it's going to be 100 degrees and I'm going to have to fight five guys and play a lot of 7-6 games." Forget said. In the past, I was not ready

to go through that fighting every day, and my level of tennis would drop dramatically. Now am more relaxed and more confident and I can keep up my level of play longer than I used to." Forget's forte has been

doubles, winning 22 tournaments. Until Sunday, he had won just five singles titles, including Sydney, Australia, and Brussels. Belgium, this year.

Forget said he played so

well at the ATP, including a win over top-ranked Boris Becker in the semifinals, because he didn't expect to win. "I just came back from holi-

"It was my own day I guess,"

Capriati said. "I thought I

day. I was going to take the tournament as a preparation for the US Open," Forget said. Every match I won was like a bonus. I didn't have any pressure on myself." Sampras won two service

Stefan Edberg to reach the final. "I think in the second and third sets I was content just to return his serve and wait for him to make a mistake. wasn't being the aggressor. "I knew he was going to raise his level of tennis - he has one of the biggest serves on the tour - and obviously he's a very hot player right

Forget is ranked seventh in the world on the ATP computer, the high point of his career, and he's getting used to feeling that he can compete

with Grand Slam winners. "These guys, in the past, have been better than me." Forget said. "Now I'm improving and I'm getting closer to

"If I play my best game and relax, maybe I beat them. But if had to play the US Open

would be ready."

Monday, is the youngest to win the US Open men's singles. He'll begin his title defense in

been nice to celebrate my birthday with a victory, but that's the way it goes." Sampras said. "I'm very disappointed, but I can't get down on myself. I've had a good

Seguso won the doubles title

split dlrs 35,660.

Cuban conquered, at last! HAVANA, Aug 12: This time it wasn't the qualagainst Mark Leduc of Canada, ity of the food, but Johnston's

haste to get inside a canned

ham bought for the team from

a store for diplomats in

"I was opening the can and

got tight and may hand

The wound to the middle

slipped under the sharp edge

finger of his right hand needed

eight stitches to close, but

only six hours later Johnston

was in the ring for his first

pound (63-kilogram) fight

MEDALS TABLE

table on the ninth day of the

Pan-American Games in Cuba

on Sunday, reports Reuter.

T & Tobago

Dom Republic

HAVANA, Aug 12: Medals

B Total

192

218

63

25

27

He dominated his 139-

fight of the competition.

of the can," Johnston said.



Cuban boxers can be beaten after all. Just not by Americans, reports AP.

A Puerto Rican fighter did Sunday what US boxers have failed to do, handing the powerful Cuban team its first loss at the Pan American Games with a shocking upset of twotime Pan Am gold medalist Candelario Duvergel.

Antbal Acevedo overcame a third-round 8-count in a bruising battle with the veteran Duvergel, taking a 23-15 decision before a disbelieving home crowd at the sweltering kid chocolate boxing arena.

Two US fighters also advanced, one despite a bloody battle with a canned ham, to give the Americans a mini three-fight winning streak and some rising confidence after a Cuba series of defeats.

Acevedo, half of a Puerto Rican boxing brother combination, rocked Duvergel repeated in the second and third rounds to win the three-round decision at 139 pounds (63 kilograms). It was the first loss after 10 wins for the Cuban team, three against US fight-

"I am very happy and I hope that Puerto Rico is happy, too," said Acevedo, whose brother fights at 132 pounds (60 kilograms). "I was very confident by the second round and my coach gave me the green light to fight."

American Steve Johnston, meanwhile, survived yet another food problem for the US

President Fidel Castro, who has been given a major politi-

light as the last Cuban Lazaro Martinez broke the tape. Castro, struggling to preserve the Caribbean Island as

raced from venue to venue presenting medals. With many of their top track stars like Carl Lewis missing the Games to prepare for the world championships in Tokyo later this month, the Americans have always seemed

The disaster for the US earlier in the men's 100 meters relay summed up the way the inexperienced US team has performed at the Games since

The Americans dropped the

they started August 2.

edged out the United States in the 400 meters men's relay. It was the 100th gold medal

won by Cuba, 20 ahead of the United States, with still a week of competition to go the hosts have already won more golds than at the last Pan American Games in Indianapolis four years ago.

cal boost by his athletes' success, punched the air in de-

one of the world's last orthodox communist states, has

a step behind the host ath-

baton at the last change over when they were leading by several yards allowing Cuba to win the gold medal. The US has also been both-

> plained about Erratic judging in some events. But the Americans did not go down without a fight in the baseball clash which was watched by a record 60,000

ered by the heat and has com-

52.29

crowd, some of whom waited was watched by get into the stadium. The young American side, whose average age is only 20, went down by only 3-2 against a Cuban team that included several players who have com-

peted in two previous Pan American Games. The US scored first in the top of the fourth inning but the Cubans came back to score two in the same inning and then went ahead in the fifth. The United States came back to score in the sixth to make the score 3-2 and in the eighth

loaded the bases with no outs. But a double play ended the fightback and Cuba's relief pitcher Omar Ojete did not

for the gold medal because

"I wondered how I would

punch," said Johnston, 18.

"But they told me it would

close up first thing in the ring,

and it did. It didn't bother me

teammate Kenneth Friday, put

both in the semifinals, where

they are guaranteed at least

"I came here to get a medal

and I did," said Friday, who

won his second fight at 125

pounds (57 kilograms)

"Hopefully now it will be a gold

bronze medals.

medal

Johnston's win, and that of

give up a hit in the ninth. However Cuba and the United States could still fight

winning a 12-6 decision.

both teams have already qualified for the semifinals. Despite the closeness of the

match there were no incidents involving players or fans, continuing the good sportmanship which has been a feature of all Cuba-US match-ups during the

SWEET SOLACE

There was some solace for the United States on Sunday when their skeet shooting team set the only world record at the Games so far.

The US team of dean Clark, Bill Roy and Mike Schmidt beat by four points the previous record of 441 points set by Holland in Zagreb, Yugoslavia

Not everything went Cuba's way on Sunday. Their veteran light welterweight champion Candelario Duvergel, who has won the last two Pan American gold medals, lost on points to Peurto Rico's Anibal Acevedo.

The shock defeat denied Cuba the chance to win all the gold medals in boxing while their main rivals the United States have already been eliminated from four of the 12 weight divisions.

Cuba, Brazil in

women's b'ball final HAVANA, Aug 12: Cuba faces Brazil for the gold medal in women's basketball Sunday. the first time the US team left a major international competi-

ports AP. The United States beat Canada 92-61 on Sunday to take third place in the Pan American Games, the first non-gold in nine tournaments dating to the 1982 world championships. "I'm not so down about this

loss, but I'm not excited ei-

ther," said Katrina McClain

tion without a gold medal, re-

but until this year never

France, in 1986, continued a periodic family tradition Forget's father Paul won the same tournament in 1966, and his grandfather Pierre won it

counterpart by telephone.

Both sides were scheduled

to meet on August 17 to dis-

cuss sending a joint team to

the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

Lee Chang-Soo, arrived in

Seoul on August 4 after seek-

ing asylum at a South Korean

diplomatic mission in Europe.

Lee had competed in the

world judo championships in

sports talks in February when

they agreed for the first time

to send unifed teams to inter-

national sporting events -

table tennis championships in

Japan in April and a soccer

The 24-year-old Judoka,

One win, at Toulouse,

GUY FORGET... his biggest payday playing another hour or it can

> be over in five minutes." Forget took the tiebreaker with a mini-break on the ninth point and won his next two

His runnerup check was for dlrs 89,600. Ken Flach and Robert

6-7 (7-3), 6-4,7-5 to share dirs 67,800. The runnerups

DPRK calls off talks with ROK

SEOUL, Aug 12: North Korca said today it was postponing indefinitely sports talks scheduled with South Korea until Scoul repatriates a northern athlete who defected to the South government officials

said, reports Reuter. The Scoul official said the North Korean Olympic com-Imittee notified its southern



tournament in Portugal in

serves with a volley and a pass-

North Korea broke off further talks in March in protest against the annual US-South Korca "team spirit" military exercises, although the joint teams, the first under a unified Korean flag, were fielded.

The fourth round of talks between the two countries' prime minister, also postponed by Pyongyang in protest against the team spirit manoeuvres, are scheduled in the northern capital from August 27 to 30. There was no mention of this session in today's

message. Both Koreas are still technically at war from the 1950-53 Korean conflict. Contacts have increased in the past year, however, as has indirect. bilateral trade.

The two Koreas celebrate day on independence Thursday, observing the end in 1945 of 45 years of Japanese colonial rule, an emotional period marked by demonstrations for the reunification of the peninsula.

Soccer result

HYDERABAD, Aug 12 Kuwatt defeated Lebanon 2-1 in the Asian Group B pre-Olympic soccer tournament here today, reports PTI.

Fernandez's title

ALBUQUERQUE. New

Mexico, Aug 12: Second-seeded Gigi Fernan-dez of Puerto Rico captured the second title of her career Sunday with a 6-0, 6-2 victory over a tired

match and take home the dlrs 27,000 top prize. "Today ! played probably

played." Fernandez entered the tournament ranked No. 33 in the world in singles. Her only other professional singles title was at a dirs 50,000 tourna-

said she was worn out and her

"Today I was too tired," said Halard, who came into the tournament ranked No. 27 in the world.



The Khulna DSA team which won the Beximco women's volleyball title beating Rangpur DSA in yesterday's final at the wooden-floor gymnasium. -Star photo

breaks in the first set, but Forget refused to buckle. "I was a bit tight, and Petc

was dominating me," Forget "Until the tiebreaker, could have lost the match. I thought to myself, we can be

right now, I don't think I Sampras, who turns 20

"It certainly would have

for the third time, although they were unseeded. The pair, who also won in 1987 and 1989, defeated the third-seeded team of Grant Connell and Glenn Michibata

top-seeded Julie Halard of France at the Virginia Slims of Albuquerque, reports AP. Fernandez, the world's topranked doubles player, pumped her fist and smiled as she fired a winning forehand down the line to end the 46-minute

one of the top five matches of my career," Fernandez said. "I don't think she played really well today, but I think part of that had to do with the way !

ment in Singapore in 1986. This was a great match for me," she said. Halard, whose singles and doubles semifinal matches Saturday both went three sets.

back was sore.