

Rudolph, Hunger end German jinx

ATHENS, Aug 25: Nils Rudolph and Daniela Hunger gave Germany a golden glow on Saturday when they ended their troubled team's long wait for a swimming title at the European Championships, reports Reuter.

Rudolph cracked the four-year-old European record of fellow ex-East German Joerg Woithe in the men's 50 metres freestyle final. "Today is Germany's golden day," he said.

Earlier, Olympic champion Hunger broke the German jinx with a decisive victory in the women's 200 individual medley on the penultimate day of the meeting.

Germany, who had their divers to thank for their only two golds in the first seven days, went on a spree at the windswept Olympic Centre with two golds, three silvers and two bronzes on Saturday.

Rudolph won a thrilling tussle with Soviet World Championship bronze medalist Gennady Prigoda, clocking 22.33 to the 22.44 of his much slighter rival as both dipped beneath the 22.47 mark set by Woithe in Munich in August 1987.

Spain's Martin Lopez Zubero collected his second backstroke gold, retaining the men's 100 metres title by a comfortable margin, with 1982 world champion Dirk Richter, another ex-East German, taking the silver.

Irene Dalby, who won Norway's first-ever European gold in Thursday's women's 400 freestyle, completed a

double in the 800, edging out German Jana Henke in a tremendous last-length duel. Frank Esposito of France claimed the men's 200 butterfly gold, leaving Poland's Rafal Szukala with his second successive European silver in the

Biondi's second gold

EDMONTON, Alberta, Aug 25: Matt Biondi and Jeff Rouse won their second gold medals of the Pan-Pacific Championships on Saturday to help the United States continue to lead the competition, picking up five gold medals, while Australia garnered two and New Zealand won one.

Biondi posted a time of 54.24 seconds in the 100 metre butterfly to narrowly beat Canadian Gery Marcel, while Rouse won the men's 200 metre backstroke with a time of two minutes and 0.85 seconds.

Australian Kieren Perkins, who was just four-100ths of a second off a world's record in a gold-medal-winning performance in the 800 metre freestyle on Friday, won his second gold with a time of three minutes 50.08 seconds in the men's 400-metre freestyle.

Susan O'Neill set a new Commonwealth record in the 100 metre butterfly with a time of 59.93 seconds. But the time fell far short of the world record for the event: 57.93 seconds, set by American Mary Meagher in 1981.

Anna Simcic of New Zealand set a new Pan-Pacific record in the women's 200-

lift their overall title haul to 15. But the day belonged to the Germans. "With today's medals crisis seems to be solved. That's why these two gold medals are very important," Rudolph said.

"Things didn't happen as we wanted them to happen at these Championships and this was reflected in the general mood of the team."

Another report says, Rudolph had no misgivings about the wind. "It helped me, especially at the start. I got pushed by a gust of wind and that may have helped me say the record," he said.

Soviet defending champion Vladimir Tkachenko tied for third place with Britain's Mike Fibbens in 22.72.

Hunger took charge from the start in the 200 individual medley, winning in two minutes 15.53 seconds by over a second from Romania's Beatrice Coada, who completed a remarkable sequence of four individual silver medals.

A false start disrupted the men's 100 backstroke and Lopez Zubero, the 200 backstroke world record holder, could not improve on his 55.28 heat time. He won in 1:55.30, with Richter claiming his second backstroke silver of the week in 56.04.

Germany's Christian Keller was disqualified from the 200 butterfly before the final began when he stumbled into the water off his blocks after one false start had already been committed.

Britain lost a medley relay bronze when the team were disqualified for a faulty takeover between Sharon Page and Lorraine Coombes from backstroke to breaststroke.

MEDALS TABLE

Medals table on Saturday after the third day of competition at the championships, here:

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
United States	18	9	8	35
Australia	7	10	5	22
Japan	2	7	9	18
Canada	4	4	8	16
New Zealand	1	1	2	4
Costa Rica	-	-	1	1
China	-	-	1	1



MATT BIONDI

metre backstroke with a time of two minutes 10.79 seconds. With one more day of competition, the United States leads the meet with 18 gold medals. The Australian team has won seven gold medals, while New Zealand has won one gold medal.

Sanchez-Vicario lifts Washington title

WASHINGTON, Aug 25: Second-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain gave herself a big boost going into Monday's US Open, downing sixth-seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-2, 7-5 to win her first 1991 title at the 3,500,000-dollar Virginia Slims of Washington on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Sanchez Vicario, who has won six career titles, earned 70,000 dollars for her first hard-court title at the 28-player tournament, while Maleeva collected 35,000 dollars.

The tournament, which played its final on Saturday to allow the players a day's rest before the Open, had no top-seed as Monica Seles of

Yugoslavia withdrew after being mistakenly placed in the draw.

Sanchez Vicario squandered two match points in the 10th game and double-faulted on two more in the 12th game before closing Maleeva out with an overhead winner in the one-hour-and-43-minute baseline duel.

The fourth-ranked Spaniard said the victory gives her confidence going into the Open.

"Maybe people will think that I can win the Open now. I wanted to show that I'm not just a clay court specialist. I think winning the Open is a possibility, she said.

Sanchez Vicario pinned Maleeva to the baseline with her ground strokes and broke Maleeva twice to win an uneventful first set, as both play-

ers endured 100-degree Fahrenheit (37 Celsius) on-court temperatures.

Sanchez Vicario in the fourth game and blazing two forehand winners from the back court to take the next game. The Bulgarian broke again in the 10th game, the most dramatic of the match. Maleeva saved two match points and finally converted her 11th break point on a backhand that hit the net and dribbled over for a winner.

Maleeva, playing her second final of the 1991, said she was upset with her play in the first set and the beginning of the second set.

"In the beginning I was not playing well. At 3-0 in the second set, I got mad at myself and then started going for my shots. At the end, she played her strongest game, hitting good, deep top-spin shots," Maleeva said.



ARANTXA SANCHEZ

Maleeva, 11th in the world, fell behind 0-3 in the second set but rallied by breaking

Lendl beats old rival McEnroe

COMMACK, New York, Aug 25: Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia easily defeated John McEnroe in the 35th meeting of their long rivalry on Saturday, beating the American 6-3, 7-5 at the 250,000-dollar Norstar Bank Hamlet Challenge Cup, reports Reuter.

Top-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden, ranked second in the world, was simply too much to handle for 131st-ranked qualifier Olivier Delatre of Luxembourg, who lost 6-1, 7-6 (7-4).

Lendl and Edberg will meet in the final today with the winner receiving 32,400 US dollars.

Lendl, ranked fifth and winner of this tournament four times, now leads McEnroe 20-15, taking nine of the last 10 and allowing McEnroe only 29 games in their last five matches.

"Lendl won more of the bigger points than I did," McEnroe said. "At the end I

missed all of my first serves." "He mixed it up well, enough to keep me off balance. He's still one of the top players in the world. He's competent enough for me to know I can't just get the ball over net. I have to try and do something else with it," said the fourth-seeded American who swept past Luiz Mattar of Brazil 6-3, 6-1 in the quarter-final on Friday.

Lendl dominated the first set, breaking McEnroe's service twice, in the third and ninth games.

But the 17 ranked McEnroe, a former world number one like Lendl and Edberg, rallied against Lendl's shaky service to challenge in the second set.

He broke Lendl in the first game as Lendl double faulted the last two points. After exchanging several breaks, they both held service until the 12th game when Lendl reached 15-40 double break point on a forehand corner shot McEnroe couldn't return.

Lendl failed on his first match point with an error but won as McEnroe double faulted.

"I was hitting the ball and playing well but I wasn't happy with my serve," said Lendl. "I'm not tossing it high enough and hitting too quick. I do it right in practice, but in the match I don't. It makes it harder for me."

Lendl had six double faults and saved six of eight break points. McEnroe had seven double faults and saved only three of eight break points.

Edberg comfortably took the first set from Delatre who set a slow pace. Playing in his first semifinal since Sydney in 1989, Delatre managed only seven points off Edberg in the first four games.

Delatre battled back to a tiebreaker in the second set, but Edberg was too tough with several service winners and solid baseline shots, taking the tiebreaker 7-4.

"I'm not used to playing the top players. At the beginning I didn't know what I wanted to

do. After the first set I felt better and played better," said Delatre, who won a challenger tournament in Switzerland.

In his quarterfinal match on Friday afternoon, Edberg held off the challenge from America's ageless Jimmy Connors 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.

Edberg, looking to defend his 1990 Hamlet Cup title, had more success than Connors in saving break points as neither could come up with a commanding service.

The Swede saved 12 of 17 break points while Connors saved six of 13.

Connors, playing a solid three sets, was in it to the end, but failed to convert the break points when he needed them. He had five break points against Edberg in the Swede's first two service games of the third set.

With Edberg, Connors, Lendl and McEnroe in Friday's matches, it was the first time four former top-ranked players played in the same quarter-finals.

Jansher shakes of fatigue

SINGAPORE, Aug 25: World number one Jansher Khan shook off fatigue and illness to power his way to a sixth straight Singapore Open Squash title on Saturday with victory over Chris Robertson of Australia, reports Reuter.

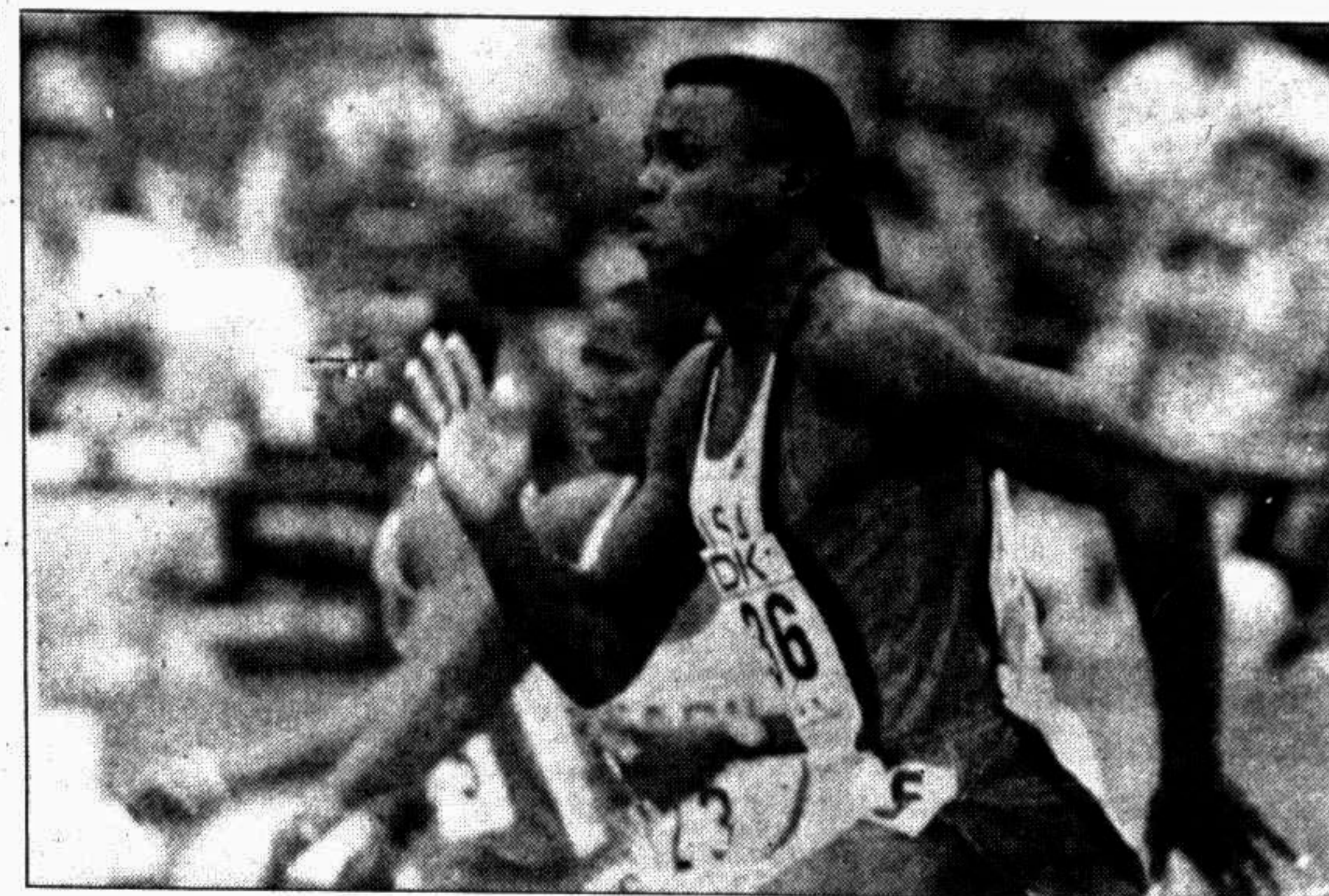
In an epic battle lasting 105 minutes Jansher overcame Robertson 17-15, 15-11, 14-15, 12-15, 15-6.

The Pakistani, who re-

ported a high temperature overnight from flu symptoms, had to dig deep to beat the athletic Robertson at his own game.

With Jansher serving for the game, Robertson, known for chasing every point, made no effort to return.

Jansher seized the initiative to lead 5-1 and 8-2 in the third game, but Robertson fought back with smashes and tireless court coverage to take the game 15-14.



American Carl Lewis is on his way to win the 2nd heat in the second round men's 100 metres in 9.80 seconds during the Third World Athletics Championships on August 24. Due to a strong tail wind in Tokyo his time was not recognized as a new world record. — AFP photo

DeFreitas puts England in charge

LONDON, Aug 25: The important wicket of captain Aravinda De Silva, who had raced to 42 from 30 balls on Friday but failed to add to his overnight score.

Gooch, seeking his third Test victory of the season, followed his first innings opening stand of 70 with Hugh Morris with another partnership of 78 before Morris was out for 23, caught attempting to sweep left-arm spinner Don Anurasiri.

Today in a rest day. SCOREBOARD England first innings: 282 (A. Stewart 113 not out, R. Ratnayake five for 69.

Sri Lanka first innings (over night 75 for two) B Kuruppu b DeFreitas 5 C Hathurusinghe c Tufnell b DeFreitas 66 A Gurusinha lab b DeFreitas 4 A De Silva c Lewis b DeFreitas 42 R Mahanama c Russell b Botham 2 S Jayasuriya c Smith b DeFreitas 11 M. Tilkekerane c Morris b Lawrence 20 C Ratnayake

England: second innings G Gooch not out 60 H Morris c Mahanama b Anurasiri 23 A Stewart not out 7 Extras (lb-9, nb-1) 10 Total (for one wicket) 100 Fall of wicket: 1-78.

England Test skipper Mohammed Azharuddin struck his fifth century of the season with a dazzling exhibition of strokeplay as he made an unbeaten 129 off only 141 deliveries for title hopefuls Derbyshire against Notts.

Derbyshire declared at tea on 300 for three off 70 overs with the scores level. Notts reached 126 for two by the close with one day to go.

Essex paceman Neil Foster, an England test regular until he toured South Africa last year, took a career best eight for 99 against Lancashire.

Then the 29-year-old explained how his test suspension had helped him to his current tally of 74 wickets this season. "There is less destruction now I'm not available for Tests," he said. "I've always taken wickets fairly regularly in the championship but now I can put all my attention into helping Essex win the title."

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DeFreitas 52
C Ramanayake lbw 0
b DeFreitas 0
K Wijegunawardene not out 6
S Anurasiri b Lawrence 1
Extras (lb-15) 15
Total 224

Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-22, 3-75, 4-86, 5-105, 6-139, 7-213, 8-213, 9-220.

Bowling: O M R W
DeFreitas 26 8 70 7
Lawrence 15.1 3 61 2
Lewis 10 5 29 0
Botham 10 3 25 1
Tufnell 7 2 23 0

England: second innings G Gooch not out 60 H Morris c Mahanama b Anurasiri 23 A Stewart not out 7 Extras (lb-9, nb-1) 10 Total (for one wicket) 100 Fall of wicket: 1-78.

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Kasparov denies meddling

BRUSSELS, Aug 25: Soviet world chess champion Garry Kasparov has dismissed accusations by his old rival Anatoly Karpov of long-distance meddling in the World Championship quarter-finals in Brussels, reports Reuter.

Kasparov told Reuter by telephone from Los Angeles that he denied sending his second, Soviet grandmaster Mikhail Gurevich, to Brussels to interfere in the tournament.

Former world champion Karpov attacked Kasparov on Thursday after defeating Indian Viswanath Anand and qualifying for the semi-finals.

Karpov said Kasparov had sent Gurevich to act as Anand's second. As a result Karpov had been playing not only Anand but, indirectly, Kasparov himself, his opponent in the last round of the World Championship.

"I wasn't in good form in this match — the task was much more difficult since Kasparov gave Anand his second — absolutely immoral," Karpov said on Thursday.

one point from three games and a defence which conceded just 18 goals last season has already been beaten seven times. Luton's Kenilworth road ground has long been an unhappy venue for Liverpool.

The plastic pitch which Liverpool disliked has been replaced by a conventional grass surface but little still went right for the Mersey Side Club.

Without injured England internationals Mark Wright and John Barnes, Liverpool lost Irish international midfielder Ronnie Whelan with a leg injury midway through the first half.

McMahon's sending off made matters worse although Liverpool players angrily accused Gray of getting the England man dismissed by play-acting.

League leaders Manchester City went behind after 18 minutes at Maine Road when Crystal Palace captain Geoff Thomas scored.

But City struck twice in the space of five minutes just before halftime. Brennan converting his first penalty and David White, who scored twice in City's midweek win over Liverpool, touching home their second in the 45th minute.

Palace striker Mark Bright tied the scores again three minutes after halftime and the game looked destined for a draw until Brennan calmly slotted home from the penalty spot again.

The last time City won their first three league games was in 1982 and that season they were relegated.

Manchester rivals United had Danish goalkeeper Peyer Schmeichel to thank as they kept out an eager Everton at Goodison Park.

Schmeichel, a close season signing from Brondby, made his best save in the 31st minute to stop a powerful drive from Polish winger Robert Warzycha.

F.A Cup holders Tottenham Hotspur showed familiar defensive flaws as they lost 3-1 at home to London rivals Chelsea.

China, ROK cagers win

AMAGASAKI, Japan, Aug 25: Two-time defending champions China and rivals South Korea coasted to their third consecutive wins to remain unbeaten in the men's Asian basketball championships here Saturday, reports AFP.

The highly fancied Chinese squad powered past Kuwait 123-51 (72-24, 51-27) in Group A, while South Korea, the runners-up in the last three years, outplayed Jordan 99-68 (53-32, 46-36) in Group B for an identical 3-0 record.

Eighteen teams were divided into four groups and the top two from each group will move into the quarter-finals, vying for a seat in the Barcelona Olympics next year.

In the Group D competition, which includes four teams, Japan and Iran secured quarter-final berths when they scored second wins against no losses.

Hosts Japan defeated Indonesia 93-55 (44-24, 49-31) and Iran outclassed Qatar 107-45 (54-29, 53-16) for a 2-0. Other winners Saturday were Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Group A: China bt Kuwait 123-51 (72-24, 51-27) Philippines bt Malaysia 126-77 (58-41, 68-36)

India beat Kenya NEW DELHI, Aug 25: India beat Kenya 6-1 (halftime 5-0) in their second hockey Test on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Scorers: India-Edgar Mascarenhas (2nd minute, 19th, 32nd), Mukesh Kumar (6th, Jasdev Singh (13th), Pargat Singh (38th).

Kenya-Indrajit Singh (51st) India won the first Test 20-0.

Rajshahi soccer Rajshahi Krira Sangha defeated Digantha Prasari by 2-0 goals in the Rajshahi Coca Cola First Division football league played yesterday afternoon at the Rajshahi Stadium, reports BSS.

The winners led the first half by a lone goal. Selim put the winners ahead in the 37th minute of the first half Bacchu doubled the margin in the 37th minute of the last half.

League champions Allied SC will take on local Abahani KC in today's vital match of the league.

Sampdoria beat AS Roma 2-0 GENOA, Italy, Aug 25: Champions Sampdoria beat Cup holders AS Roma 1-0 to win the Italian Super Cup for the first time in three attempts on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Italy striker Roberto Mancini struck with a deft lob from the edge of the penalty box in the 75th minute to ensure Sampdoria maintained the record of the champions winning the Italian season opener.

Sampdoria as cup holders lost to AC Milan in the first edition of the super cup in 1988 and to Internazionale the following year. Maradona's Napoli crushed Juventus 5-1 last year.

Stich, Sanchez in final

SCHENECTADY, New York, Aug 25: Top-seeded Michael Stich of Germany and third seed Emilio Sanchez of Spain will face off in the final of identical 7-5, 6-1 victories in OTB Open on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Wimbledon champion Stich ousted sixth-seeded Horst Skoff of Austria, while Sanchez beat countryman and eighth-seeded Francisco Clavet by the same score.

Today's final will mark the first meeting between Stich and Sanchez neither has dropped a set in their four matches during the weeklong tournament.

Stich served up 11 aces in his victory over Skoff, giving him 45 for the tournament. "I didn't really have to do that much today," said Stich. "Skoff didn't really have the best of preparation for this match."

The Austrian survived a four-hour match against Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union on Friday, and it appeared to have sapped his energy.

In their second tournament meeting this year, Sanchez struggled early against Clavet.



An amateur cricket team, under the leadership of Bangladesh skipper Minhazul Abidin Nannu, left for the USA recently to play three exhibition matches there. The team called on the Industries Minister Mr Shamsul Islam Khan before their departure.