LONDON, June 7: Pakistani fast bowler Wasim Akram took four wickets in nine balls without conceding a run to earn Lancashire and unexpected victory over Hampshire in the English country championship on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Akram grabbed the last four wickets as Hampshire, chasing 350 in 74 overs, lost their last five batsmen for nine runs to lose by 128 runs.

Hampshire looked to have saved a draw when they reached 212 for five with 10 overs remaining. But Akram produced his blistering nineball spell to move Lancashire into fourth place with their second championship win.

Dominic Ostler cracked a maiden century to help save championship leaders Warwickshire from defeat against

Forced to follow-on 269 behind after being bundled out for 83 in their first innings, Warwickshire reached 389 for

Colo Colo lift Copa Libertadores

SANTIAGO, June 7: Luis Perez scored twice in five minutes to help Colo Colo of Chile win the Copa Libertadores by beating defending South American champions Olimpia of Paraguay 3-0 here on Wednesday. reports AFP.



Mohammedan midfielder Roxy (No.17) has the Abahani defence at his mercy but failed to - Star photo capitalise on the golden chance in yesterday's final at the Dhaka Stadium .

Agassi in final at Becker's cost



PARIS, June 7: ports AP. power and hustle, Andre Agassi outduelled frustrated Boris

Backer in four sets Friday to reach the French Open final for a second straight year, re-

Agassi, pursuing his first Grand Slam title, chased down many of Becker's best shots and made fewer errors enroute to a 7-5, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 victory that climaxed with an ace.

The two rivals embraced warmly at the end. The defeat wrecked

Becker's chance of recapturing the No. 1 ranking from Stefan Edberg and left him still without a clay-court championship in his career.

In the final Sunday, Agassi will play the winner of Friday's later match between ninthseeded Jim Courier and No. 12 Michael Stick. Courier gave Becker a shot at the No 1 ranking by beating top-seeded Stefan Edberg on Wednesday. Agassi, seeded fourth, has

won four straight matches against Backer, who was seeded second here.

In the women's final, scheduled for Saturday, defending champion Monica Seles faces 1989 winner Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, who is the semifinals handed Steffi Graf the worst defeat of her pro career, 6-0, 6-2.

Despite Graf's defeat, and Seles' victory over Gabriela Sabatini in the other semifinal on Thursday, Seles is not yet assured of retaining her No world ranking.

Officials of the Women's Tennis Association, correcting an earlier press release, said Friday that Graf world become No 1 in the computer rankings

Ramprakash sparks English fightback

Sports Reporter

Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-45,

3-45, 4-64, 5-129, 6-149, 7-

154, 8-177, 9-181, 10-198.

BOWLING OMRW

Ambrose 26-8-49-2

Russell lbw b Patterson

Extras (lb5, nb14, w2)

Watkin b Ambrose

Malcolm not out

first innings, had hit back well to reduce the West Indies to 166 for the loss of eight wickets when bad light

England, dismis-

sed for 198 in

and rain stopped play soon after tea on the second day or the first cricket Test at Headingley Friday, according to BBC running commentary monitored in Dhaka last night.

West Indies skipper Vivian Richards was batting on 71, made with the help or two sixes and seven boundaries. Courtney Walsh was with him on nought.

Earlier, Phil Simmons made 38 after Richardson and Carl Hooper had both been run out. England resumed at their overnight 174 for seven and

added another 24 runs Friday morning before losing their remaining three wickets. Reuter adds, two superb pieces of fielding by Mark Ramprakash sparked an Eng-

land fightback after West

Indies looked set to take

command of the first cricket Test at Headingley today. Facing a far from challenging England first innings total of 198, West Indies lost four wickets in scoring 168 for four just after tea on the second

Richards was unbeaten on 23 at the interval. Scores England 198, West

Indies 168 for four. Phil Simmons 38, Richardson 29 SCOREBOARD

Gooch c Dujon b Marshall Atherton b Patterson Hick c Dujon B Walsh Lamb c Hooper b Marshall 11 Ramprakash c Hooper b Marshall Smith run out

Patterson 26.2-8;-67-3 13-4,-46-3 Marshall Pringle c Logie b Patterson 16 14-7/-31-1 Walsh DeFreitas c Simmons b Am-West Indies firs t innings Simmons c Rai nprakash b

DeFreitas Haynes c Russell b Watkin Richardson run out Hooper run out Richards not or at Extras

Total (4wkts) Fall of wicket s: 1-36, 2-54, 3-58, 4-102, (Incomplete)



Abahani fans hoist their skipper Rupu after lifting the BTC Club Cup charity soccer trophy beating Mohammedan Sporting 1-0 in yesterday's final at the Dhaka Stadium. — Star photo

Sanchez faces a difficult final against Seles

Courier in final

Sports Reporter

Jim Courier made it an all American final defeated German hope Michael Stich in a three-setter in second of yesterday's French Open men's singles semifinals at Roland Garros.

Courier will now meet compatriot Andre Agassi who disposed of Stich's compatriot and world No 1 seed Boris Becker in the first semifinal of the day.

Maradona scurries into courts

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, June 7: Disgraced soccer star Diego Maradona scurried into the local courts on Thursday to check how his cocaine case was going, local news agencies reported, reports Reuter.

Quoting unidentified court sources, the state-owned Telam and the private Noticias Argentinas news agencies said the former Argentina and Napoli club captain met with federal judge Amalia Berraz de Vidal briefly on Thursday afternoon.

The player's lawyer, Pablo Rawyer, Pablo Rabey, could not be immediately reached for comments.

Maradona, banned from soccer until July 1992 for failing a drug test, was arrested in April with two friends at a Buenos Aires flat and charged with possessing cocaine and providing the drug to others for free.

After spending over a day under arrest, he was freed on 20,000 dollars bail. He now faces up to two years in jail for the first charge and up to 12 years for the second one.

According to his agent, Marcos Franchis the 30-yearold midfielder is receiving drug rehabilitations counselling and keeps fit playing five-a-side soccer, tennis and jogging.

SOCCER SCENARIO

Taylor keen on going unbeaten



WELLINGTON, June 7: An experimental English team will be seeking to re-establish itself Saturday when it plays New Zealand in the third match of its southern hemisphere tour, reports AP.

England's unimpressive 1-0 victories over Australia and new Zealand, teams comprised of part-time professionals, have sparked media criticism at home. Manager Graham Taylor will be looking to extend his unbeaten streak to 10 since taking over the team after last year's World Cup and is Graham Taylor expected to introduce more young players.

Nottingham Forest fullback Gary Charles, 21, makes his England debut on Saturday, while Nigerian-born Crystal Palace winger John Salako will make his first start after entering England's last two games as a substitute. Nottingham forest defender Stuart Pearce will captain England in the absence of Gary Lineker, who is playing with the club. FA Cup champions Tottenham Hotspur, at the Kirin Cup in Japan. Central defender Mark Wright returns to the team after

recovering from a thin injury sustained in the bruising victory over Australia last week. Wright replaces Earl Barrett, who had a strong game in the center of England's defense on Monday, while Mark Walters, David Batty and Lineker also have been omitted. Taylor said he hoped to give as much experience as

possible to fringe players. New Zealand manager Ian Marshall has delayed naming his team. Captain Malcolm Dunford is recovering from a calf muscle injury and midfielder Robbie Ironside has a back injury.

Hosts Japan, Spurs keep winning

OKYO, June 7: Tsuyoshi Kitazawa and Kazuyoshi Miura scored second-half goals on Wednesday, leading the Japanese national team to a 2-1 victory over Brazilian club Vasco da Gama in the preliminary round of the Kirin Cup. reports AP.

Kitazawa opened the scoring in the 55th minute and Minura added the second on a 25-meter free kick 19 minutes later in a game played before 22,000 at Nishikyogoku Track and Field Stadium in Kyoto. Vasco da Gama's Bismarck scored on a penalty kick with five minutes remaining for the Brazilian goal.

In the other game in the four-team tournament. English Football Association Cup champion Tottenham Hotspur used second-half goals by Matthew Edwards and John Hendry. scored three minutes apart, to rally from a 1-0 deficit and beat the Thailand national team 2-1. At Nagoya, central Japan, the Thais took a 1-0 lead when Atipong Nukornnavarat headed in a cross from Surasak Trunsuras in the 18th minute. But Edwards scored in the 78th minute and Hendry

scored the game winner three minutes later off a feed from Paul Stewart. The four teams are playing a round robin format for a first prize of 100,000 dollars. Japan is 2-0, while Tottenham Hotspur and Vasco da Gama each have one victory and a draw. Thailand is 0-2. Vasco da Gama meets Thailand and the Japanese play Tottenham at the National Stadium in Tokyo on Sunday.

English booters prescription to heal rift ONDON, June 7: The English Players' Union proposed a

unifying body on Thursday to heal the rift, caused by plans for a breakaway premier division, between the Football Association (FA) and the League, reports Reuter.

Gordon Taylor, chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), called on the two bodies to end the 'unedifying spectaele' produced by their dispute over the FA's proposed 18-club super league in 1992-93.

The PFA, with government backing, suggested introducing an executive board made up of members from the FA, the League and the PFA under an independent chairman. The board would make all key decisions affecting the game and unify English soccer's administrative bodies while allowing each to retain its own identity, said Taylor.

Wild celebrations claim 7 lives

ANTIAGO, June 7: Wild celebrations by Chileans euphoric O over winning the Latin American Soccer Cup led to the deaths of seven people, most of them run over by vehicles, police said yesterday, reports AFP.

Throngs of pedestrians mingled with thousands of honking cars jammed the streets after Colo Colo's 3-1 victory late Wednesday over Paraguay's Olimpia for the Liberatadores de America Cup. Six people were killed after being hit by cars and another person was killed in a street fight, police said.

Japanese girls make World Championships

UKUOKA, Japan, June 7: Japan beat Taiwan 5-4 in a penalty shoot-out to win the semi-finals of an Asian women's football meet and a berth in the inaugural World Championships in China in November, reports AFP.

After a scoreless extended semi-final match at Hakatanomori Stadium in this southern city, the two teams battled to a 4-4 tie in the penalty shoot-out. The Japanese victory came when Mayumi Kaji neeted a fifth goal after a shot by Lin Hui-Fang of Taiwan was blocked by Japanese goalkeeper Masae Suzuki.

Japan had placed first in the five-team Group B competition of the eighth Asian women's football championships which got under way here May 26. In another semi-final. China, which had won the four-team Group B contest and already qualified as the host country for the World Championships in Guangzhou, downed North Korea 1-0. North Korea and Tatwan will clash Saturday for the third spot in this championship or for another berth in the November world competition, while Japan and China will face off in the finals for first or second place in the Asian meet.

Lendl in quarters



BECKENHAM, England, June 7: Defending champion Ivan Lendl advanced Thursday to the quar-

terfinals of the Beckenham grass court tournament by beating Mexico's Luis Herrera 6-4,6-4, reports AP. Lendl, the top seed, will

next face No. 9 Jim Grabb, who downed fellow American Patrick Galbraith, 6-2,7-5. The second seed, Richey Reneberg of the United States,

was eliminated by Brad Pearce

6-3,7-5. Pearce's next opponent will be the winner of the match between Italian Gianluca Pozzi and former Wimbledon cham-

pion Pat Cash. For Lendl, who travelled to Paris between rounds of the Beckenham tournament to receive an award, it was another useful workout on grass in his build-up to Wimbledon.

"I was pretty pleased with

my returning," he said. " broke three times on a court that was bouncing pretty low and was a bit bumpy at times." Many think that time is

running out for the 31-year-old Lendl to win his first Wimbledon title, but the Americanbased Czech disagrees.

"I feel I have quite a few years left," he said. "If you take care of your body

and your mind and train properly you can play quite a while." In the women's event, second-seeded Gretchen Magers of the United States was ousted by No. 5 Anne Minter of 4, 6-1. Australia 6-3, 6-3.

will play either 12-seeded Elizabeth Smylie of Australia or unseeded Renee Stubbs, also of Australia.

In the other semifinal, Andrea Strnadova of Czechoslovakia, the No. 3 seed, faces No. 6 Pam Shriver, who defeated the unseeded Lupita Novelo of Mexico 6-2, 6-1.

PARIS, June 7: Steffi Graf failed to reach the French Open final

for the first time in five years on Thursday, reports Reuter. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario inflicted one of the worst-ever defeats on the former world

semifinal 6-0, 6-2. Monica Seles, the current number one, also had a surprisingly easy time against third seed Gabriela Sabatini, winning the other semifinal 6-

number one, winning the

Graf, who had not dropped In the semifinals, Minter a set to love in nearly seven years, had beaten the fifthseeded Spaniard 10 times in 11 previous meetings.

Significantly, the only previous defeat was on the same court two years ago when she lost to Sanchez Vicario in three sets in the French Open final.*Both matches were interrupted by rain.

Graf was last whitew ashed in a set in August 1984, when she went 6-0 down to American Mary Lou Daniels -- then Mary Lou Piatek - before winning their match at t'ne New Jersey tournament. Graf's troubles oin court

produced an ugly inc ident in the players' box wher i her father, Peter, was involved in an exchange of blows d uring the match with American magazine proprietor Jim Levy who was cheering loudly for Sanchez Vicario. Sanchez Vicario, who had

two matchpoints before losing to Graf in the German Open final, also on clay, last month, later revealed her game plan against the 21-year-old Ger-

"She was always running round on the backhand side to play her forehands so every time I had the chance I hit them there to open up the court and let me hit winners, said the Spaniard, who is sure to improve her world ranking of fifth now. Sanchez Vicario faces a difficult final against Seles, who

has beaten her four times in four previous meetings, including the Hamburg semifinals on clay last month. Both Sanchez Vicario and Seles occupied themselves

during their respective rain breaks by playing video games and listening to tapes. But the break of one hour and 27 minutes in the first semifinal seemed to unsettle Sabatini who came back on court to lose seven games in a

row to the ungainly but efficient Seles. Sabatini, who twice saved a matchpoint before beating Czechoslovak Jana Novotna in the quarter-finals, started well, swapping breaks with Seles in the fourth and fifth games be-

fore the rain began. After an 18 minute interruption. Sabatini returned to fight off a breakpoint in the seventh game and level at 4-4 before the skies opened again and umpire Jane Tabor called a second halt.

But all the fight had gone out of Sabatini when the match resumed.

She allowed Seles to b reak her at 5-4 to take the firs t set. contributing a double faul t and a series of forehand er rors, and picked up only eight points in the first five gar nes of the second set before he olding

But by then it was to o late, Seles raced to 40-0 in the next game and, despite an u ncharacteristic wobble when she double faulted on the first matchpoint, rounded off her victory in 77 minutes when Sabatini made another forehand mistake.

Seles, who lost to Sabatini in the Italian Open final last month, said she had been careful not to take the victory for granted until the last ball.

Judge blocks WBC



PATERSON, New Jersey, June 7: The World Boxing Council cannot hold a purse bid this weekend on

a proposed heavyweight title fight between Evander Holyfield and former champion Mike Tyson, a New Jersey state judge ruled Thursday. reports AP. Superior Court Judge Amos

Saunders said that only the International Boxing Federation could accept bids from promoters seeking to stage the fight. He blocked the WBC from holding a purse bid on Saturday, according to Karen Passero, Saunders' law clerk. The IBF, one of three gov-

ernment bodies for boxing and the lead organization for any challenge to Holyfield, plans its purse bid Tuesday. Holyfield had petitioned the court for relief after both the IBF and the WBC announced

plans to hold purse bids, a

move the champion said would

either cost him money or

guarantee a split in the now

The court decision could pave the way for a contract agreement between Holyfield, who is represented by Dan Duva of Main Events-Monitor. and Tyson, who is represented by Don King.

Main Events-Monitor has offered Tyson 15 million dollars for a fight against Holyfield, who recently retained his title with a unanimous decision over George Foreman. King reportedly wants 25 million dollars or Tyson.

Under the IBF formula, the

It is unlikely that Tyson will make 25 million dollars in light of the court decision, which keeps the IBF as the lead organization for the fight.

champion gets 75 percent of the winning purse bid and the challenger 25 percent. That would mean someone would have to make a purse bid of 100 million dollars for Tyson to get 25 million dollars. "Fifteen million is absolutely

more than Tyson can even

hope to receive in a purse bid,"

former compani- rangements, changed. on of tennis star Martina Navratilova has filed a

lawsuit seeking up to million dollars to meet the terms of a cohabitation agreement the two signed in 1986. reports AP. Judy Nelson filed docu-

ments in a Fort Worth court this week alleging that Navratilova failed to comply with a 'non-marital cohabitation agreement' made after the two moved into a house together.

A June 20 hearing has been suit's merits. set in the court of Tarrant County civil Judge Catherine Adamski Gant on Nelson's request that someone be appointed to distribute the pair's

The agreement contains with legally. the mutual promise of each partner to act as companion and homemaker to the other." attorneys said. It also specifically states that neither woman would owe the other support, ranked player in the world, singles titles.

FORT WORTH. but would split what assets Texas, June 7: A they had if their living ar-

"It's a whole new concept,"

said Jerry Loftin, an attorney representing Nelson. " There's alimony, palimony, and this is partner-mony. We're not asking for support." "We're asking for half of the assets accumulated during the

partnership. We're talking 5 to 10 million dollars. We're saying (Martina) doesn't want to abide by the agreement to turn over the property and money." Mike McCurley, a Dallas atrepresenting

Navratilova, disputed the law-"This is an attempt to disguise a palimony suit as a partnership suit," McCurley said. "Obviously these folks have a very serious difference of opinion that will have to be dealt

Neither Nelson nor Navratilova could be reached Thursday by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Navratilova, the fourth-

was served with notice of the lawsuit Wednesday in Hilton head, South Carolina, McCurley

He said Navratilova is in



MARTINA NAVRATILOVA England to compete in the **Eastbourne Grass Court Tennis** Tournament. The tournament, scheduled for June 17-22, precedes Wimbledon the following week. Navratilova has won a record nine Wimbledon

Navratilova sued for palimony The timing of this is not accidental," McCurley said.

> Navratilova in April sent Nelson a letter dissolving their partnership, according to court records. But Nelson claims Navratilov:a refused to list and divide their joint as sets, which the February 1986 agreement required.

That 11-page agreement is accompanied by a video tape showing the two reviewing their pact. At the time. Navratilova lister I assets worth 5.2 million dolla rs and liabilities of 705,889 chillars. Her 1986 real estate hold

ings included the Fort Worth residence valued at 625,000 and a New York apartment in Trump Plaza va lued at 600,000 At issue in the lawsuit are

the assets accumulated since the two moved in together on July 10, 1984, attorneys say. Loftin said Nelson does not know how much that is because Navrati lova has held control over the pairs's property

and has not listed its worth

with the court.

Duva said. unified crown. Farther and farther the javelin flies



LONDON, June 7: The nightmare scenario of a high-flying javelin spearing an athlete, official of

even a spectator has been resurrected this year as manufacturers and throwers battle for supremacy, reports Reuter.

When East German Uwe Hohn threw the javelin 104.80 metres seven years ago, international athletics authorities realised they needed to take urgent action to avoid a possible disaster. Accordingly the Interna-

tional Amateur Athletic Associ-

ation (IAAF) shifted the ful-

crum of the javelin before the

1986 season, effectively reducing distances by about 20 metres. Then the manufacturers got to work. Hungarian Miklos Nemeth,

the 1976 Olympic javelin champion, produced an implement with a roughened tail which flew higher and further than conventional models. The Nemeth was used by Czechoslovak Jan Zelezny to

to 90.98. This year 1987 world champion Seppo Raty threw a Swedish model 91.98 metres before unleashing a staggering throw of 96.96 at a minor meeting in his native Finland

set a world record of 89.66

last year and by Briton Steve

Backley to improve the mark

last Sunday.

"The record can be improved by a couple of metres if the conditions and the throw are just right," Raty commented. "A little more luck and the javelin may go 100 metres this summer if conditions are perfect." Raty has been using the latest champion javelin, developed by Nordic Sport AB.

But, perhaps surprisingly. Nordic Sport AB sales manager Leif Lundmark, a former elite Javelin thrower himself, says the company is opposed to any tinkering with the implement. "We have been opposed to it from the start but we felt we had to prove that we could do better than our competitors

even in this respect," Lund-

mark said this week. Lundmark said the aerodynamic superiority of the javelin used by Raty last Sunday was due to smooth, thick plastic tape wrapped around the spear. "We tried it out before this season on an impulse and tests in a javelin throwing machine that showed it flew six to seven per cent further than the regular champion.

We are not sure how this can be but it affects the aerodynamics to make it similar to the javelins used before the rule change, especially in strong head wind." He added that the firm was confident it could further develop the javelin's capacity 'But as a

Backley has also been experimenting with the new javelin and the Briton has said he is confident he can better Raty's mark. "Raty has already improved by 10 metres since he started using it and there's

no reason why I couldn't do

the same," Backley said this

"His throw has opened up a whole new barrier. Last year we were talking about the 90metre barrier which I was the really on for 100 metres."

first to break. Now the race is Zelezny showed on Tuesday he will be a record contender again with the fourth-longest throw of all time at the

threw 90.40 metres with his second throw and said he felt in better shape than last year. He gave no indication if he planned to switch to the An IA/IF techinical official

Czechoslovak, using a Nemeth.

said there was a division of opinion vyhithir; in the sport over whether the modified javelins should be permitted, "One interpretation says on

past practice the surface of the javelin show id be smooth," the official said . "The other interpretation s ays a rough surface is not exp ressly prohibited,"

He sat d the matter would be on the a genda of the IAAF's biennial congress Bratislava Grand Prix. The