

More woes for Windies

NORTHAMPTON, England, June 18: Beaten West Indies faced another injury scare on Monday when fast bowler Patrick Patterson damaged his right calf muscle, just three days ahead of the second Test, reports Reuter.

The injury happened during an otherwise meaningless final session as the visitors' rain-plagued three-day match against Northamptonshire ended in an inevitable draw.

Patterson pulled out after sending down just two deliveries when Northants began their first innings.

"He slipped in the foothold during his delivery stride,"



PATRICK PATTERSON said tour manager Lance Gibbs. "He's had some treatment already and will have some more tomorrow. It's too early to say

whether it is a worry for the Test."

An injury to Patterson would be another huge blow to West Indies who lost to England in the opening Test week.

Already hit by fellow pace-man, Ian Bishop's non-availability for the tour because of back problems, they have also lost the services of opener Gordon Greenidge through a serious knee injury.

Uncapped Ian Allen would be Patterson's most likely replacement ahead of promising all-rounder Hameesh Anthony.

West Indies did, however, manage to salvage some useful batting practice from the match against Northants with Jeff Dujon scoring 82, Viv Richards 47 and Carl Hooper 49 not out.

But young left-hander Brian Lara, from whom so much has been expected, failed again and was dismissed for four.

West Indies declared at 310 for eight and Northants were 68 for one at the finish.

Meanwhile, England manager Micky Stewart has hit back in a row with Derbyshire over his handling of fast bowler Devon Malcolm, least impressive of the England bowlers in the first Test.

Country chairman Chris Middleton had attacked Stewart's decision to put Malcolm through a private net session at Derby on Saturday.

"It's made us out to be idiots," said Middleton. "It implies we can't look after him."

But Stewart said he arranged the session with the permission of Derby captain Kim Barnett.

"I can't understand what all the fuss is all about," Stewart said.

Nudists' Olympics

DARLINGTON, Maryland, June 18: Gold, silver and bronze medals are all contestants will wear in this week's 'Nude Olym picks', reports AP.

In the tradition of ancient Greek athletes, about 1,000 contestants will strip to compete in the four-day event, which begins Thursday at a campground in this town 30 miles (48 kilometers) north-east of Baltimore.

"The original Greek Olympic athletes understood the free feeling of nude competition for over 1,600 years," said organizer Michael Gesner of Broadway, New Jersey. "We want to provide a chance for anyone to share that great experience for themselves."

Gesner's Tri-State Club won the team championship in last year's inaugural nude games near Philadelphia, and is organizing this year's competition at a private campground here.

Events include track, swimming, tennis and volleyball. The non-athletic can win medals in fishing, body-painting, backgammon and trivia.

Most residents here appear more amused than shocked.

Jan Peacher says she has half a mind to put a sign in the window of her antique and craft shop reading: "Welcome Olympians. But, please, wear clothes while you spend your money."

"It certainly has been big news in Darlington," Ms. Peacher said. "I just feel to each his own," she said.

"It's been just a chuckle," said Tom McCurry, who owns an auto repair shop.

Bill Pacer, another organizer says residents need not worry.

"It's very wholesome," he said. "A person who has sex on his mind really has no place at a nudists' event."

Wimbledon seedings annoy Martina

LONDON, June 18: Wimbledon officials angered women's champion Martina Navratilova as they ignored grass-court form and stuck rigidly to current world rankings as the basis of the seedings announced on Monday, reports Reuter.

Navratilova, who on Sunday won the Birmingham grass-court title, is seeded only fourth for the tournament which starts next Monday despite being Wimbledon champion nine times.

The American dashed through her opening match against South African Amanda Coetzer 6-0, 6-1, in just 34 minutes at the Eastbourne warm-up tournament and then snapped: "I don't know how many times I have to win the Wimbledon title."

"They probably seeded me fourth because I've lost on clay. Anyway, I don't want to talk about it any more."

The Wimbledon policy also meant there was no place in the 16 men's seeds for former champion Pat Cash of Australia, recently very impressive after returning from lengthy injury which has left him 65th in the world rankings.

Nor in there place for American David Wheaton, who won through to last weekend's final on grass at Queen's before losing to current Wimbledon title-holder Stefan Edberg.

But it is the seeding in the

would not be surprised or upset if Navratilova, one of the greatest grass-court players in the history of the game, was top seed.

Zina Garrison, who beat both Seles and Graf on her way to the final last year, may also feel that being seeded eighth this year is hardly justice.

Among the men there will be no dispute with the top

months. But he has played at Wimbledon only once, in 1987, when he was knocked out in the first round.

Others who might not have been named had the seedings

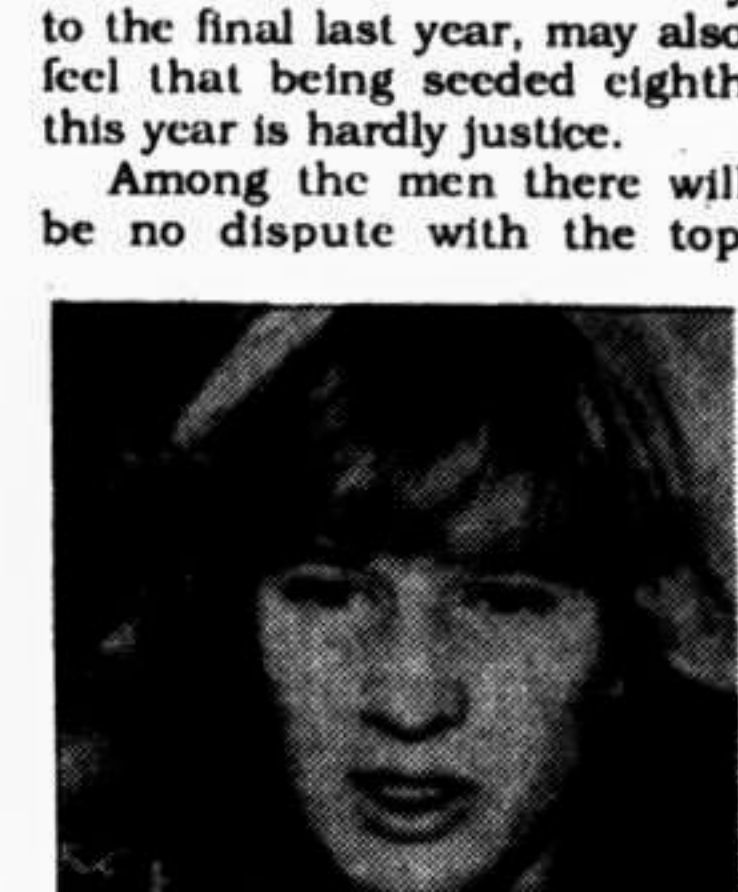


MARTINA NAVRATILOVA

women's section that will provoke the most controversy.

Monica Seles of Yugoslavia, the world number one who has yet to prove she is as good on grass as she is on clay and hard courts, is the top seed with former champion Steffi Graf of Germany second and Argentine Gabriela Sabatini third.

But almost all the top women have said recently they

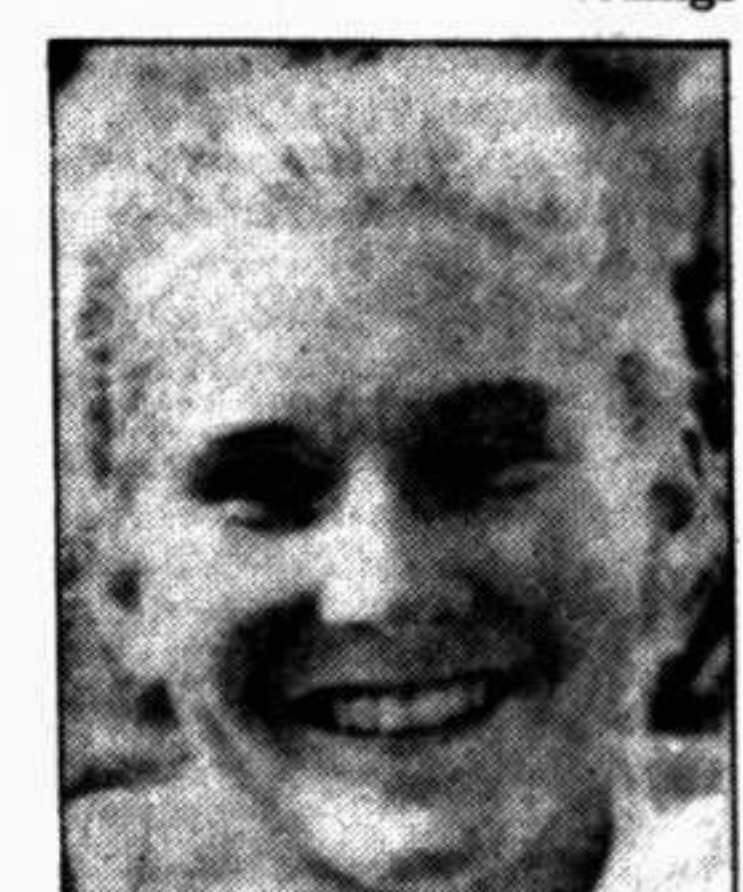


STEFFI GRAF

three: Edberg of Sweden, former holder Boris Becker of Germany and Czechoslovak Ivan Lendl.

But after that there is much room for argument.

Seeded fifth is American Andre Agassi, a great player on clay and cement as he has proved in reaching the finals of the French Open twice and the US Open in the past 13



MONICA SELES

been based on grass-court form are American Michael Chang (seeded ninth), Spaniard Emilio Sanchez (11th), Russian Andrei Cherkasov (12th) and Czech Karel Novacek (14th), all four are noted clay court players.

John McEnroe, three times champion and still good on grass at 32, is seeded only 16th.

Edberg exudes quiet confidence

LONDON, June 18: Stefan Edberg is putting his feet up for a day or two, even though he de-

fends his Wimbledon crown in less than a week, reports Reuter.

The Swede, delighted with his bet run-up to the Garand Slam tournament, can afford a little relaxation. He has had the perfect preparation for Wimbledon with victory in the Queen's Club final on Sunday topping a week without losing a set.

Never one for hyperbole, the world number one was exuding quiet confidence as he headed back to his London home to spend some time with girlfriend Annette Olsen.

The serious work starts again on Wednesday when British coach Tony Pickard will line up the practice partners for his charge.

Edberg had bad news for those who saw him flatten all-comers, including 1987 Wimbledon winner Pat Cash, at Queen's — the best is yet to come. "I never play my best grass court tennis at Queen's," said Edberg whose serve and volley game fits the fast surface perfectly.

Edberg's natural flair for grass has seen him into the past three Wimbledon finals, always against his long-time rival Boris Becker. He won in 1988 and 1990, leaving the year in between to the big German.

Becker has been a constant factor in Edberg's life for eight years, challenging him for titles and briefly, after his victory in the Australian Open in January, seizing the number one spot.

The quiet, likeable Edberg welcomes Becker's presence.

"It has been good for tennis, it has been good for both of us," Edberg said. "We have to

raise our level. I am always looking out to see what he is doing and I am sure he is looking out to see what I am doing. There are no hard feelings at all between us."

Though still only 25, Edberg, who has won 30 titles and earned nearly nine million dollars in prize money, considers himself one of the elder statesmen of tennis.

He twice won the Australian Open title—in 1985 and 1987 — in the days before the tournament was switched from grass to an artificial surface.

"I think some of the older players do have a little bit of an advantage at Wimbledon because we used to play two Grand Slams on grass and now we play only four or five weeks on it," he said.

A good grass court player also needs time to flourish, said Edberg, predicting difficulties for American Andre Agassi, who plans a serious attempt on Wimbledon this year. He made the briefest of appearances in 1987, losing in the first round.

Volleyball results

BANGKOK, June 18: Fujian of China beat Malaysia in straight sets 15-2, 15-2, 15-5 while Taiwan defeated Indonesia 15-10, 15-5, 16-14 in their Group A first round matches in the fifth Princess Cup women's volleyball championships here Thursday, reports AFP.

In Group B, Unifita of Japan beat Philippines 15-2, 15-2, 15-4 and Hebei of China beat Australia 15-2, 15-2, 15-7.

Inevitably, Edberg sees his main rival next week as Becker, who also won in 1985 and 1986.

Afro-Asian Games in Delhi Mar 7-15

NEW DELHI, June 18: The first-ever Afro-Asian Games will be held in New Delhi from March 7 to 15 next year, reports PTI.

A decision on the dates was taken at a meeting of the co-ordination committee of the Afro-Asian Games at Birmingham (England) over the week end.

The meeting was held during the session of the International Olympic Committee at which the 1998 Winter Olympic Games were awarded to Nagano (Japan).

According to an AFP report from Birmingham, Mr Jean-claude Ganga, president of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa, was unanimously elected president of the co-ordination committee of the Afro-Asian Games.

Mr Ganga, who is also Nigeria's Telecommunications and Tourism Minister, succeeds Sheikh Fahad, former president of the Olympic Council of Asia, who was killed during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Mr Suresh Kalmadi, MP and president of the Amateur Athletics Association of India, has already been named by the Indian Olympic Association as the chairman of the Afro-Asian Games organising committee.

Christie criticises US officials

LONDON, June 18: Top British sprinter Linford Christie on Monday strongly criticised the American athletics authorities for allowing Butch Reynolds to compete in last week's U.S. championships in defiance of a two-year drugs ban, reports Reuter.

Christie, the 100 metres Seoul Olympics silver medalist, described the decision as

"diabolical". The IAAF imposed the ban in November when urine samples taken at a meeting in Monte Carlo showed the presence of the anabolic steroid nandrolone.

But The Athletics Congress (TAC), the governing body for track and field in the US, agreed Reynolds, the world 400 metre record holder, could run in New York after hearing of evidence that the urine samples had come from different people.

"The state of the sport at the moment is disgraceful," said Christie, captain of the British athletics team.

"Sometimes, I'm just embarrassed to be among these people and I'm glad I'm near the end of my career and not starting it," he added.

He anger was also fuelled by the lucrative sums earned by Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson who returned to the track this year after serving a two-year ban.

"He is going to retire a very rich man while the rest of us are still running our legs off," Christie said.

Zia memorial chess results

Sports Reporter

Syed Moniruzzaman of Bangladesh Air Force and Syed Golam Mohiuddin of Anushilan Club were jointly leading the points table with three points each after the third round matches of the Shaheed Zia memorial chess tournament yesterday at the moonlight gymnasium, Manikdi, Dhaka Cantonment.

Pragati Chakma, MK Chowdhury, Ahsanul Haque, Rakibuddin, and Dulal were jointly placed in the second place.

SOCCER SCENARIO

Marseille to buy off Stojkovic



MARSEILLE, France, June 18: Marseille's record signing, Yugoslav midfielder Dragoslav Stojkovic, will be transferred to an Italian club before the start of next season, the French club's President Bernard Tapie said on Monday, reports Reuter.

Tapie, who paid 48 million francs (eight million dollars) for the former Red Star Belgrade player a year ago, said Verona, Juventus and Italian champions Sampdoria had all made inquiries about the Yugoslav World Cup star. Stojkovic was unable to regain a regular place with Marseille after recovering from a knee operation and came on for just eight minutes as substitute in the European Cup final last month when Marseille lost to his old team.

Indonesia win pre-Olympic tie

HONG KONG, June 17: Indonesia defeated Chinese Taipei 2-1 in an Olympic Games soccer East Asian Zone Group F qualifying match in Surabaya, Indonesia on Sunday, reports Xinhua.

According to reports reaching here, Rocky Putraya scored two goals for Indonesia in the second half before Hung Che-Ming head home the only goal for Chinese Taipei. It was Indonesia's second match in the group after a 1-2 loss to Japan last week.

Indonesia is to play its last home match next week against Hong Kong, also in Surabaya.

Mexicans hold the Brazilians

ORTO, Portugal, June 18: Mexico fought back from 2-0 down to force a draw against Brazil in their Group B World Youth Soccer Championship game on Monday, reports Reuter.

It was a bad night for Brazil, twice world youth champions, who also had Roberto sent off in the 78th minute for his second bookable offence. The Brazilians had gone ahead after 16 minutes when Miguel Fuentes in the Mexican goal failed to gather a freekick from just outside the penalty area and Nunes was on hand to thump home the rebound.

Fuentes presented Brazil with a further gift goal a minute before the interval, Luiz Fernando slamming in another rebound off the goalkeeper.

Doll agrees with Lazio terms

HAMBURG, Germany, June 18: Hamburg's German international midfielder Thomas Doll has agreed transfer terms with Lazio but Hamburg will not accept the Italian club's current offer, the German sports news agency said on Monday, reports Reuter.

Doll, a former East German international, agreed to the transfer in a four-hour meeting with Lazio president Gian Marco Caleri at Milan airport on Sunday. But Hamburg are rejecting the 9.5 million marks (\$3.3 million dollars) the Romans are offering for Doll, who is under contract to Hamburg until 1995.

Abahani stars leave for Calcutta today

Sports Reporter

Three Abahani football stars Rumi, Aslam and Munna — leave today for Calcutta to play for East Bengal Club in the Calcutta Super Division league.

The three were signed up by the famous Calcutta side when it came to Dhaka to participate in the BTC Club Cup tournament earlier this month.

The Bangladesh Football Federation granted the three booters permission to play in Calcutta on condition they will remain available for their Dhaka side Abahani and also make themselves available for national selection.

Aslam, Rumi and Munna will assist East Bengal on a match-to-match basis for a sum not officially disclosed.

A senior East Bengal Club official, who arrived a few days ago, will accompany the players to Calcutta.

Soviets in Euro Cup hockey semis

PARIS, June 18: Switzerland, voted the most polite team in the European Cup, were stuffed 6-1 by the Soviet Union on Monday, reports AFP.

This win effectively put the Soviets into the semi-finals. The Swiss, who won the praise of the ball girls, have now conceded 19 goals.

But at least they have avoided defeat once. Wales, trounced 6-2 by Spain yesterday, have lost all four.

Jose-Antonio Iglesias scored three times for the Spanish. One of the goals was from a penalty stroke.

Egypt won't invite SA in Cairo Games

CAIRO, June 17: Egypt will not invite South Africa to compete in the All-Africa Games scheduled for September despite Pistorius's relaxation of racial segregation laws, organizers said Monday, reports AP.

The organising committee expects to announce venues for the tournament before the end of this year. They are in the process of choosing between eight and 12 cities that will host matches in the 24-nation World Cup tournament.

Twenty-seven cities have made bids to host matches.

Women handballers for C'wealth Games

Sports Reporter

A fourteen-member national junior women's handball team, which will participate in the Commonwealth junior handball championship scheduled to be held August 6-13 at Delhi was announced yesterday in a Bangladesh Handball Federation press release.

Following are the members of the team: Zakia Sultana, Akharun Nisa, Shahana Hena, Shapna, Nasima, Rahima, Saleha, Hashila, Shaheda, Jahanara, Jharina, Setara and Monira.

'94 World soccer June 17 to July 17

LOS ANGELES, June 18: The 1994 World Cup soccer tournament, the first ever to be staged in the United States, will begin in June '94, and conclude with the championship game on July 17, U.S. World Cup organisers announced on Monday, reports Reuter.

"This is an excellent time frame for the first World Cup to be held in the United States," Charles Gale, chief executive officer of World Cup USA 1994, said.

"It will allow us to have the round-of-16 games held over the fourth of July holiday weekend, which will add an additional, exciting element to what we know will be a festival of soccer across America," said.

The organising committee expects to announce venues for the tournament before the end of this year. They are in the process of choosing between eight and 12 cities that will host matches in the 24-nation World Cup tournament.

Twenty-seven cities have made bids to host matches.

Top seeds face tougher opponents

WIMBLEDON, June 18: The top two men's seeds, Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker, drew challenging opponents Tuesday for their first-round matches at the Wimbledon tennis championships, reports AP.

Americans John McEnroe and Andre Agassi, meanwhile, should have relatively easy first-round matches in the world's premier grass court tournament beginning next Monday.

Edberg, the top seed, will face hard-serving Marc Rosset of Switzerland, ranked No. 34 in the world. Becker, three-time Wimbledon champion, will play former Davis Cup teammate Carl Uwe Steeb of Germany.

In the last three years Edberg, now world No. 1, and Becker, No. 2, have faced each other in the finals. Edberg won last year and in 1988. Becker won in 1989.

McEnroe, seeded 16th,



STEFAN EDBERG

drew little-known Jaime Oncins of Brazil as a first-round opponent and will face a qualifier in the second round if the advances.

The toughest player McEnroe would face in the third round would be Horst Skoff of Austria. He could then play Edberg in the next round.

Agassi, seeded fifth and playing at Wimbledon for the



BORIS BECKER

first time since he lost in the first round in 1987, drew Canadian Grant Connell.

If he makes it to the quarterfinals, Agassi could face either 11th seeded Emilio Sanchez, a clay-court specialist who has never made it past the first round at Wimbledon, or Patrick McEnroe, John's younger brother, who plays well on all surfaces.

Among the women, top-seeded Monica Seles has a first round match against Sabina Appelmans of Belgium, and No. 2 Steffi Graf plays Monique Javer of Britain.

Third-seeded Gabriela Sabatini will face Barbara Rittner of Germany. Nine-time champion Martina Navratilova, seeded fourth, drew Elina Reinach.

Jimmy Connors, the 1985 champion on a comeback after wrist surgery, was ranked too low to qualify but received a wild-card this year. He will play Veli Palohelmo of Finland in the first round and could wind up facing eighth-seeded US Open champ Pete Sampras in the third round.

Sampras drew Martin Jatte, a clay courtier from Argentina, as his first opponent. In other first-round men's pairings, French Open champion Jim Courier, the fourth seed, plays Rodolphe Gilbert of France, and ninth-seeded baseliner Michael Chang faces grass court specialist Tim Mayotte.

TENNIS TIDINGS

Sampras says he couldn't care less



Pete Sampras

MANCHESTER, England, June 18: US Open champion Pete Sampras on Monday brushed aside John McEnroe's attack on his attitude towards America's Davis Cup team, reports Reuter.

McEnroe criticised younger players such as Sampras, Andre Agassi and Michael Chang for refusing to play for the US in the Davis Cup quarter-final against Spain last weekend.

"He can say what he wants. It's his opinion and I am going to do what's best for me. I cannot let what McEnroe says disturb me in any way," Sampras said here yesterday.

Sampras said he did not play in the Davis Cup because the fixture, postponed during the Gulf war, was too close to the Wimbledon Championships which begin next Monday.

Stretched by Bergstrom

MANCHESTER, England, June 18: Top seed Pete Sampras struggled to a three-set victory over Christian Bergstrom in Monday's first round of the Manchester Open grass court tennis tournament, reports AP.

Sampras, who has battled all year to regain the form that led him to a U.S. Open title last September, defeated Bergstrom 7-5, 4-6, 6-2 on the opening day of the 225,000-dollar tournament. Sampras had lost two previous matches to Bergstrom and did not look completely in control Monday until he broke the Swede's serve at love in the final game of the match.

Lightning win for Martina

ASTBOURNE, England, June 18: Top seed Martina Navratilova needed just 34 minutes to defeat Amanda Coetzer in Monday's first round of a grass-court tournament, but eighth seed Amy Frazier was upset and fifth seed Zina Garrison pulled out with an injury, reports AP.

Navratilova, 34, who won a tournament Sunday in Birmingham and will be seeking her 10th Wimbledon title beginning next week, defeated the 19-year-old South African 6-0, 6-1.

Frazier lost 6-2, 6-3 to Briton Jo Durie, who had won only two matches all year before Monday.

Second-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario defeated Claudia Porwik 6-1, 6-4, but third seed Mary Jo Fernandez needed three sets to defeat Nathalie Herremann 6-3, 2-6, 6-1. Fourth seed Jana Novotna lost only four games to Akiko Kijimuta of Japan. Garrison withdrew from the singles portion of the 350,000-dollar tournament because of a strained stomach muscle.

Indian women for Fed Cup

NEW DELHI, June 18: India will send its players to the Federation Cup tennis tournament which will be held in Britain next month, reports Xinhua.

According to all India Tennis Association secretary-general R.K. Khanna here yesterday, 56 countries and regions will take part in the competition to be held at Nottingham, England from July 21 to 28.