Sampdoria's woes

ROME, Aug 13 : Italy's two

leading soccer teams. Sampdoria and Inter Milan,

have run into problems even

before their domestic season

Champions Sampdoria

crashed to a 4-1 defeat against

Ajax in the Netherlands on

Sunday and had two players

sent off, taking their tally of

dismissals to five in just three

sent off in a 1-1 draw against

Arsenal in London a week ago

and two against Dutch cham-

pion PSV Eindhoven who beat

"Our legs gave out, our minds clouded," Sampdoria's

Italy forward Roberto Mancini

have struggled in intense

summer heat to comply with

hectic programme of friendlies

involving a great deal of travel-

on Saturday in their firth

away to Germany's Stuttgart,

won 7-0 at semi-professional

Recanatese on the Adriatic

coast and then struggled to

beat second Division Udinese

3-2 and promoted Verona 1-0

their troubles too. Their em-

barrassment of playing riches

was highlighted recently when

World Cup midfielder Roberto

Donadoni said he played bet-

ter when Dutch star Ruud Gulit

American matmen

reign supreme

Brad Penrith's upset of a Cuban

world champion, the United

States won seven freestyle

wrestling gold medals at the

Pan American Games on

Puerto 6-4 to spark the big

night for the Americans. It was

the first major international

meet for Penrith, 27-year-old

Four years after giving up

"You hate to lose," an ex-

hausted Penrith said after the

125 1-2-pound (57 kilogram)

match. "It's hard to explain . .

Penrith beat Alejandro

Monday, reports AP.

HAVANA, Aug 13 : Led by

was not also in the side.

Local rivals AC Milan have

They drew 1-1 in Cagliari

Before that they lost 2-1

**UEFA** Cup champions Inter

Sampdoria also had a man

kicks off, reports Reuter.

pre-season games.

them 2-1 on Friday.

match in nine days.

in north east Italy.

## Seles back on top



LOS ANGELES. Aug 13: Tenthseeded Yayuk o f Basuki Indonesia defeated Germany's

Claudia Porwick 2-6, 6-2, 6-4 in the first round of the 350,000 dollar Virginia Slims of Los Angeles women's tennis tcurnament on Monday, reports Reuter.

Top-seeded Monica Seles of Yugoslavia who regained the world's number one computer ranking on Monday from Germany's Steffi Graf due to the system's complicated mathematics, faces South African Elna Reinach in the second round. The top eight seeds received first round byes in the 56-player, hard court tournament.

Second seeded Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, who retired from her semifinal match at the Canadian Open last week due to a blister, is scheduled to start against the winner of the match between South African Ros Fairbank-Nideffer and American Particia Hy.

South African Amanda Coetzer upset 14th-seeded Regina Rajchartova of Czechoslovakia 6-4, 7-5 in a first round match.

Three British players were beaten in the first round, as Reinach eliminated Clare Wood 5-7. 6-1. 6-3 and both Monique Javer and Sara Gomer were beaten in straight sets. Basuki, who has won two

tournaments and increased her ranking from number 273 to number 39 this year, squandered a 5-0 third set lead against the 90th ranked Porwick but hit two opportune forehand service return winners at 5-4 to close out the 90minute match. "I was missing some close

ones in the third set and I said, 'Come on. You have a lot of confidence. Go for it', and it worked," Basuki said.

#### TOP 20 PLAYERS

The following are the top 20 women's singles players. according to rankings issued by the Women's Tennis Association on Monday:

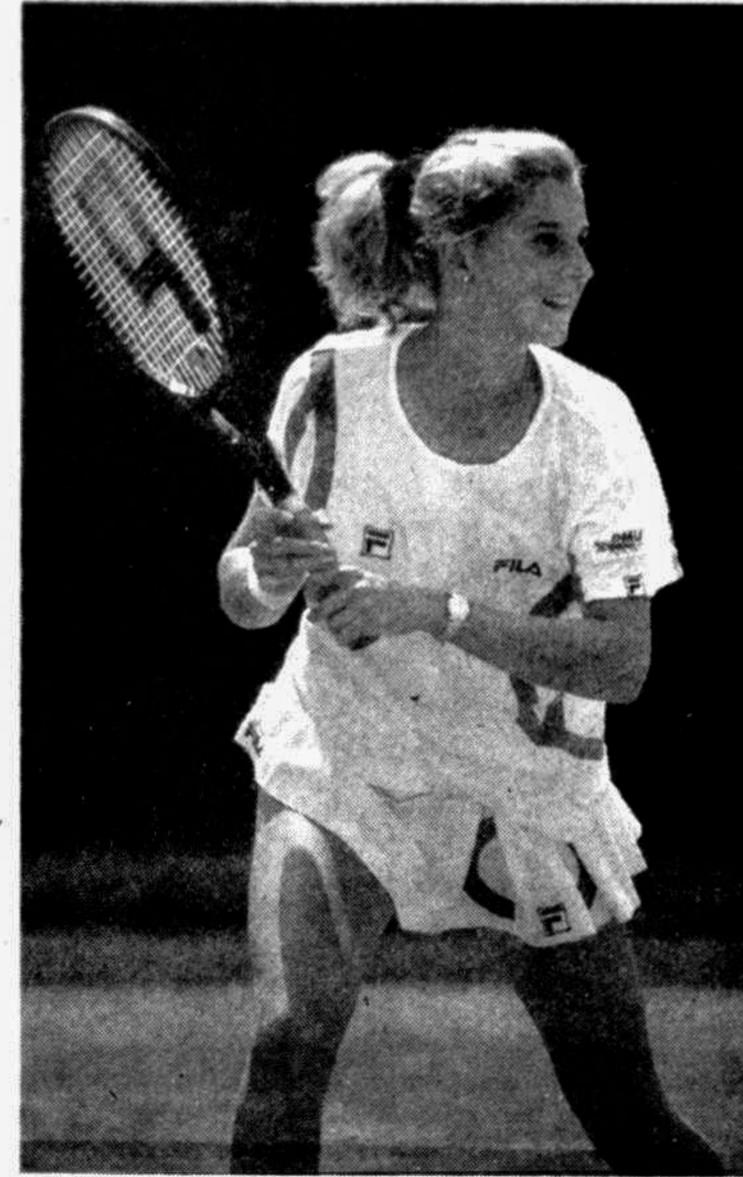
1. Monica Seles (Yugoslavia) 2. Steffi Graf (Germany) 3. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina)

4. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain) 5. Martina Navratilova (US) 6. Mary Joe Fernandez (US)

7. Jennifer Capriati (US) 18. Conchita Martinez (Spain)

Novotna Jana (Czechoslovakia) 10. Manuela Maleeva-

Fragniere (Switzerland) Zina Garrison (US)



MONICA SELES ... back at the top as No.1

Katerina Maleeva (Czechoslovakia) (Bulgaria) 13. Leila Meskhi (Soviet

Union) Nathalie Tauziat 14. (France) Helena Sukova 16. Anke Huber (Germany)

17. Barbara Paulus (Austria) 18. Judith Wiesner (Austria)

19. Amy Frazier (US)

20. Natalia Zvereva (Soviet Union)

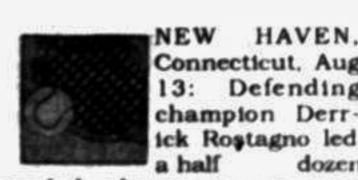
### Top money earners

ST PETERSBURG. Florida. Aug 13: Leading money winners this year in women's tennis, according to the Women's

Tennis Association on Monday, reports Reuter. 1. Monica Seles (Yugoslavia) 967,758 Dollars; 2. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina) 3. Steffi Graf (Germany) 807,336; 4. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain) 523,627: Jana Novotna (Czechoslovakia) 469,094; 6. Mary Joe Fernandez (US) 434,622; 7. Martina Navratilova (US) 373.536; 8. Natalia Zvereva (Soviet Union) 305,402; 9. Gigi Fernandez (US) 264.953: 10. Jennifer Capriati (US) 264.917: 11. Larisa Savchnko (Soviet union) 230,340; 12. Helena Sukova (Czechoslovakia) 222.136; 13. Zina Garrison (US) 206,483; 14. Nathalie Tauziat (France) 168,204; 15. Conchita Martinez (Spain) 166,365;

Manuela Malecva-Fragniere (Switzerland) 132,328; 17. Lori McNetl (US) 132.240: 18. Patty Fendick (US) 130,948; 19. Elizabeth Smylie (Australia) 125,932; 20. Leila Meskhi (Soviet Union) 125,667.

# Rostagno to the fore



Connecticut, Aug 13: Defending champion Derrick Rostagno led seeded players to opening

round victories at the 1 million dollar Volvo interna tional tennis tournament on Monday, reports Reuter.

The ninth-seeded Rostagno beat fellow American Brian Garrow 6-3, 6-4.

"I feel at home here," said Rostagno. New Haven's adopted son as decreed by its mayor. 'It feels great to be out there."

The top eight seeds, including number one Stefan Edberg of Sweden, number two Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and number four American John McEnroe all received first round byes and are due to begin play today and Wednesday. The tenth-seeded American

Michael Chang, however. struggled through three sets to beat Swede Mikael Pernfors 6-3, 5-7, 6-2.

Chang, the 1989 French Open champion, grabbed control of the final set by racing to a 5-0 lead and then holding off

a late Pernfors rally. "I was able to hold my serve effectively." Chang said.

Rostagno was down 40-0 in the 10th game of the second set with Garrow threatening a service break. But Rostagno ran off five straight points to win the match.

"He started to consistently return well, but I came up with a couple better shots where earlier I didn't," Rostagno said. "I pulled it out."

The tournament, site of a flurry of upsets last year, had no real surprises Monday. No 12 Cristiano Caratti was the only seed out of the tournament and he withdrew be-

cause of stomach cramps. In other matches, No 11 Pete Korda overcame a slow start to beat Jean-Philippe Fleurian 6-3, 6-3, and 13thseeded Omar Camporese defeated Wally Masur, 4-6, 6-4.

6-4 Fifteenth-seeded Richard Krajicek had nine aces enroute to a 3-6, 6-3 6-4 victory over Christo van Rensburg, and 16th-seeded Marc Rosset beat Mark Woodforde, a Volvo

semifinalist last year, 6-4. 6-2. "I really started playing bet-

ter when I started holding my reins back a little bit and choosing my shots more." Rostagno said. 'I just go out and play good tennts rather than go-for-broke tennis all the time."

Rostagno mixed his shots like a control pitcher Monday night, using slices, lobs and powerful crosscourt shots to keep Garrow on the defensive. At one point in the second set, Rostagno followed a 69 mph serve with a 116 mph serve for

"It's good to mix things up, especially against Brian because if he gets in a rhythm he's very tough player. I definitely wanted to keep him from anticipating what shot I'd be hitting next."

Rostagno seemed to take command when he lost just three points during three games to take a 3-1 lead in the second set, then broke Garrow in the next game.

But Garrow broke back in the next game and pressured him throughout the rest of the match.

Rostagno, who has never been in position to try to defend a title, said he wasn't sure how he'd feel returning to New Haven. But he said he felt comfortable.

"Considering it was the first match of the week, I feel I played really well," he said. "Better than most first days."

## McEnroe moves up

-dollars US hardcourt championships on Monday, but it is a strong finish the rising American star is eyeing. reports Reuter.



Conchita Martinez and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain with the Federation Cup that they won beating the US 2-1 in the final on July 27.

wrestling, Penrith stunned the rowdy crowd at Mariposa Stadium.

graduate of the University of 828,671; drinking rather than quit

> I just had a fear of losing." John Smith, America's most accomplished wrestler and a gold medalist Monday, called Penrith's improbable victory "the most phenomenal performance by any wrestler

"And it might be the most phenomenal performance by an American wrestler in the last two or three years," Smith

### Nicaraguan coach knocks umpire

HAVANA. Aug 13 : A Nicaraguan baseball coach knocked an umpire to the ground Monday after being ejected for arguing a called third strike during Nicaragua's 5-4 loss to the United States. reports AP.

Nicaraguan coach Trinidad Vallejos shoved Canadian home plate Umpire Bernie McGuire in the back following the call against catcher Genaro Lianes. which ended the seventh inning with the tying run on



INDIANAPOLIS. Indiana, Aug 13: Twelfth- seeded Patrick McEnroe had a strong start to the one million

"My goal is to start playing better tennis at the end of the tournament," said McEnroe after his 7-5, 6-1 win over compatriot Brad Pearce. "I have to learn to do better in later rounds instead of peaking AP. on Monday or Tuesday."

The younger brother of former world number one John, McEnroe has won his own headlines this year starting with a Australian Open semifinal effort in January. McEnroe is ranked number 35 in the world.

"I'm not expecting to take John's place," said McEnroe, who lost to John in the final of the Chicago tour this winter. "But I'm trying to be one of the top American players and improve my ranking."

The top eight seeds, which include top-seeded Boris Becker of Germany, last week's winner at Cincinnati, fourthseeded Guy Forget of France and Americans, second-seeded Jim Courier and the US Open champion, fifth-seeded Pete Sampras, all received first round byes.

American Steve Bryan, the 1990 American collegiate singles champion, upset 11th seeded Anders Jarryd of Sweden 7-6 (7-3), 6-1 and New Zealand's Brett Steven's beat 13th-seeded Ronald Agenor of Haiti 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (13-11) in opening day surprises.

Bryan, ranked 184 in the world, led 3-0 in the opening set before the Swedish Davis Cup veteran fought back to force a tiebreak. But, Bryan took control in the tiebreak and remained the dominant player in the last set.

## The secret of Cuba's success

HAVANA, Aug 13: Rioger Ramirez's long climb to Cuba's first diving gold in the Pan-American Games started with a radio announcement a decade ago, reports AFP.

"I was six years old when my family heard on the radio about a selection test for young divers. They took me along and I was picked out," said the 16year-old who caused a major upset in defeating experienced Mexican and US divers to win the 10-metre platform in what was his first major competi-

Ramirez's win was another unexpected victory here for Cuba and its communist-style sports system. With six days of competition left, the Cubans had won 113 gold medals compared to 75 in the whole of the 1987 Games at Indianapolis. "There is no mystery.

nothing supernatural" in Cuba's success wrote columnist Gilberto Dihigo in the official Games daily, Eco Panamericano. "It is the result of the effort

made by the Cuban government in connection with But Cuba's success is also a reflection of the weakness of

the US teams here, particu-

larly in track and field. As Ramirez's experience shows. Cuba singles out promising athletes early and sends some to special schools many study physical educa-

Ramirez said that those who compete in international events get a monthly stipend of 50 pesos, about 50 US dollars at the official exchange rate. The average salary in Cuba where health care is free and many people get subsidised housing and food is around 200 pesos. The stocky, diminutive

diver said that athletes were



Canada's Robert Dawson (L) during the Pan-Am Games freestyle wrestling on August 12. Dawson won the 57-kilo event with a total of 3.5 points. -AFP photo

"not affected" by the food rationing which other Cuban people endure, but gave no details of their diet.

Officials insisted athletes have to pass entry and similar exams like other students in the state-run educational system, but said that special ar-

rangements were made to match up studies and training requirements.

Lency Montelier, who won

the women's 400-metres hurdles, said she had been training for the Games for a year. "I was singled out in 1985

as a good runner and sent to a

special junior high school for sports," she said.

She is now studying physical education and had two study periods and two training

sessions a day. Ramirez, who is in middle school and also studying physical education, said he had two two-hour training sessions

The island has no shortage of physical education instructors. Officials say there are 25,000 people teaching physical education in junior and high schools and another 11,000 people with degrees in the same subject.

Sport figures strongly in the school curriculum.

In his column. Dihigo noted that more than 2,000 sports facilities had been built in the country's primary schools in the past five years mainly in the rural areas, and that the amount of people using school sports centres had doubled since 1986.

The facilities built for the Games, including and Olympictype main stadium, a swimming and diving complex, and a cycling track, will help with the training of future medal

Ramirez expects Cuba to produce more diving medalists now that they can train inside. "We had to train outdoors and sometimes it was cold and the temperature of the water was not very pleasant," he said.

Asked about Cuba's success here, officials stress the emphasis which the government has put on health care. particularly in the rural areas. The best-known current

product of the Cuban system is national idol Javier Sotomayor. who holds the world highjump record at 2M44 and who won the high jump here. "I want to be like

Sotomayor," said Ramirez as he began his life as a champion.

#### US swimmers rule the pool "Everyone — the wrestlers, there, and the crowd's going



HAVANA, Aug 13: The United States swimming team took all five golds medals in Pan

American Games' swimming Monday and US wrestlers won seven in a last-gasp attempt to narrow their country's gold-medal gap with Cuba, reports AP.

Ashley Tappin, a tall, slender 16-year-old who cut through the water like a shark. set the pace in the first swimming race of the games. She led teammate Megan Oesting, 18, to a gold-silver finish in the 100-meter freestyle that set three Pan Am milestones.

It was the 100th 1-2 finish by the United States in the 40-year history of Pan Am swimming, the 200th and 201st medals by women, and the 399th and 400 medals overall by US swimmers.

The two teens came out waving American flags, the only flagbearers in their group. They established the tone for the youthful team that lasted the whole evening - and might just last through Saturday's final races.

the baseball team, the drivers. the trainers - is saying, I 'm glad the swimmers are here. We need more gold," said Tappin, who won in 56.51

If any prof was needed that

the American swimmers weren't just boasting when they predicted a near sweep in the pool — despite the absence of the best in the US preparing for the Pan Pacific Games in 10 days and racing in Florida this week - Tappin and Oesting offered it. "If I had made the Pan-Pac

team, I would have declined it to come here," said Tappin. "This team is a lot more fun. People are a lot more relaxed. We get serious when we need to, but we don't overdo." "The United States has a

lot of depth." said Oesting "The time between our first and sixth person is maybe a Despite the intense rivalry

between the United States and Cuba, all the swimmers who won said they were touched by the cheers they received on the medal stand from the Cuban crowd "It was definitely a mo-

ment," Tappin said. "You're

crazy, and you're, like. Wow. They're doing this for a United States person." The five golds in the pool

and the seven in wrestling cut

the US gold deficit with Cuba to 113-98 late Monday's action. The United States led in overall medals 263-218. Hans Dersch, 23, took the second gold and the 200th by an American male swimmer as the 100-meter he won breaststroke in 1:02:57, just

ahead of Puerto Rico's Todd

Torres. Jeff Commings, 17,

won the bronze. "I was expecting to go a bit faster, but I can't complain," Dersch said. "The last lap was a bit of a struggle. We've been here three or four days, and it was real hard to stay focused. But this is a swim meet not a

Amy Shaw. 19, made it 3for-3 in golds with a victory in the 400-meter individual medley. Her 4:50:39 clocking easily beat Canadas Joanne Malar. Brandy Wood, 17, won the

vacation.

Shaw took the lead early and held it through the first few laps. Malar passed her on the backstroke and led slightly going into the breast-

stroke laps. But Shaw caught up and passed her by the first turn on the breaststroke, then pulled away to win.

"The US is always after getting all the gold medals, but we were more motivated seeing how well Cuba was doing. said Shaw, who called the crowd "spectacular".

Eric Diehl, 18, won the men's 200 freestyle by a touch against Gustavo Borges of Brazil, clocking a Pan Am record 1: 49: 67. Cubans finally got a chance to whistle and shout for one of their own. Rene Saez, who won the bronze. Cuba had won only one silver and two bronzes in the 10 previous Pan Am Games.

The last 50 (meters), when you're breathing to the left and see the American flag. you can't lose," said Diehl, who broke the Pan Am record by .22 seconds.

The fifth US gold was a record-shattering team affair in the women's 4X200 freestyle relay. The Americans - Natalie Norberg, Barb Metz. Jane Skillman and Lisa Jocob - set a Pan Am mark with 8:11:47, nearly two seconds than the previous faster

## Tokyo meet new ballgame for Burrell



MALMO, Sweden, Aug 13: Leroy Burrell has held the world 100 metre record

since June 14 and has a 3-0 edge over US teammates Carl Lewis in headto-head meetings in that distance this season, reports

But he's not over-confident as he prepares for his first World Championships. The meet starts in Tokyo Aug 24.

"It's nice to go into the worlds with a winning streak, but anybody can beat me," Burrell says. "There are so many good sprinters out there. "It's a totally different race.

There are so many more fac-

tors involved. Anything can

happen. Everybody will be extremely motivated." Burrell, who also qualified for the 200 in Tokyo, beat Lewis in back-to-back 100s last week in this southern Swedish city and in Zurich.

Switzerland. It would be a confidence booster for most sprinters, beating perhaps the most experienced sprinter in history three straight times before the most important race of your career.

mean that," Burrell says. "The Worlds is so much bigger than Grand Prix meets." It's not a confidence booster if you haven't been through it before. "I haven't been to a world

"But it doesn't necessarily

championship yet, so I don't really know what's going to happen. I just hope that I can go there and run as fast as I can. If that happens there is a really good probability that I

Winning is something Burrell has done a lot in the past two seasons. Last year, he

won 19 of 22 finals in the 100. defeated Lewis in the Goodwill Games for the first time in six meetings and copped his first

No 1 ranking. After setting a world indoor mark at 60 meters (6.48 seconds) during a brief European

season in Madrid Feb 13, the

Santa Monica Track Club speedster kept on winning. He improved the winning times in his last four 100-meter races clocking a world record 9.90 in the US Championships in New York.

Burrell may have the edge on Lewis now, but "you just



LEROY BURRELL ..... gunning for records

can't count Carl out" in the 100, the world's fastest man

Lewis, the only sprinter to win two Olympic and one world Championship 100-meter gold medal, thinks he will be ready for Tokyo.

this season and I'm counting the nationals," says Lewis, who had a 9.92 behind Burrell in New York two months ago. Lewis, who returned to

Houston from a European tour

in July to recover from the flu

and tight hamstrings, ran his

sixth 100 of the year at Zurich.

"I haven't run a good 100

He is not expected to run any more before the Worlds. "It's not a matter of enough or not enough," he says. "You have to be prepared no matter il you have 50 races or six races for the world champi-

the focus is." Lewis, as usual, has been able to close his races very well. But his starts were less impressive in the European

onships. That's really where

Burrell, who credits a lot of box drills for making him more explosive out of the blocks, also has been inconsistent at the start in his recent

"Sometimes I hit the gun. Sometimes I'm out last," he says. Ben Johnson, who used to be extremely fast out of the blocks, will not be competing in any individual race in Tokyo, having finished fourth in the Canadian trials after struggling all season long as a drug-free sprinter.

Burrell won't miss Johnson. who was banned two years after testing positive for steroids in the 1988 Olympics.